

GAME PREVIEW

McNeese State Cowboys

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Samantha Areman

NU VOLLEYBALL

Justine Wong-Orantes

THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

OFFENSIVE EXPLOSION

Nebraska sets Big Ten
Conference total yardage
record for a single game



www.huskersillustrated.com

Sept. 6, 2014
VOLUME 34 | NO. 6 |
\$4.95

magazine.huskersillustrated.com

Instructions
on page 16



Activate Your **FREE**
FULL ACCESS
ACCOUNT TODAY!

Take The Huskers With You!

IN THE PAST YEAR, THESE ISSUES OF *HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED* WERE MAILED TO YOU...



BUT DID YOU ALSO READ THESE DIGITAL *HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED* EXPRESS EDITIONS?



Check out the issues between the issues at magazine.huskersillustrated.com! Digital only Express Editions are Great for Laptops and Tablets. Free to *Huskers Illustrated* Magazine Subscribers

THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

Huskers Illustrated is published by Landmark Community Newspapers, 2623 Regency Rd., Lexington, KY 40503. Periodicals postage paid at Lexington, KY and additional mailing offices.

Editor, General Manager: **DARREN IVY**
darrenivy@huskersillustrated.com

Photographer: **JOE MIXAN**

Photographer: **JIM RASH**

Photographer: **MITCH OTTO**

Recruiting Writer: **MIKE SCHAEFER**

Beat Writer: **MICHAEL BRUNTZ**

Beat Writer: **LANNY HOLSTEIN**

Contributing Writer: **DOUG GRIFFITHS**

Contributing Writer: **BRIAN ROSENTHAL**

Contributing Writer: **BOB HAMAR**

Contributing Writer: **TERRY DOUGLASS**

ADVERTISING

Tim Francis (800) 524-9527 Ext. 111
or Darren Ivy (402) 762-5352

NATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR: G Associates, Inc.

SUBSCRIPTION QUESTIONS: Go to magazine.huskersillustrated.com

or e-mail to support@huskersillustrated.com

or call 1-800-524-9527.

MORE THAN A MAGAZINE

TO SUBSCRIBE:

MAGAZINE.HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

OR CALL: 800-524-9527



PRINT | Huskers Illustrated Magazine

Huskers Illustrated Magazine, the original publication dedicated to Nebraska athletics, is in its 33rd year of publication with the best Husker coverage, including our annual football yearbook (pictured).

To Subscribe: magazine.huskersillustrated.com

E-EDITION | Magazine.huskersillustrated.com

Our new e-edition of the magazine can be viewed on your computer or iPad. Perfect for the subscriber who doesn't want to wait for the mail! Current subscribers register for free access at Magazine.huskersillustrated.com. No credit card required.

EXPRESS | Magazine.huskersillustrated.com

Each release of Huskers Illustrated Express, an exclusive online-only bonus to your subscription, will provide up-to-the-minute news, features and commentary about Nebraska's upcoming football or basketball games. Current subscribers register for free access at Magazine.huskersillustrated.com. No credit card required.

INTERNET | HuskersIllustrated.com

Follow Nebraska 24 hours a day at huskersillustrated.com and with our new Internet partner 247Sports.com. Get breaking



news, game reports, recruit databases, recruit rankings, video highlights and photo galleries. It's FREE message board, The Bone Yard, is quickly setting a new standard for forums in college sports. \$9.95 per month. 7-day free trial available.

SOCIAL MEDIA | Facebook & Twitter

Join the thousands of other Husker fans that follow Huskers Illustrated online. Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/huskersillustratedfan or on twitter at twitter.com/hillustrated.



The next Huskers Illustrated Edition, recapping the McNeese State game and previewing the Fresno State game, will mail on Monday, Sept. 8.

Huskers Illustrated (USPS 658-450, ISSN 0279-3474) is published monthly January, February, March and December, Bi-monthly March/April and June/July/August and three times per month during October and weekly in September and November by Landmark Publications, LLC dba Huskers Illustrated, 601 Taylorsville Rd Shelbyville, KY 40065. Periodicals Postage Paid at Shelbyville, KY and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions: \$62.95 per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to Huskers Illustrated, 601 Taylorsville Rd. Shelbyville, KY 40065.

Contents

SEPTEMBER 6, 2014 * VOLUME 34 * NO. 6

COLUMNS

4

FROM THE EDITOR

BY **DARREN IVY**

Nebraska showed how explosive its offense can be with nearly 800 yards of total offense against Florida Atlantic, and also how its defense has matured and improved.

22

RECRUITING NOTEBOOK

BY **MICHAEL SCHAEFER**

Nebraska lost out on a top 2015 quarterback recruit and recently found out that its only QB commit in the class would be ineligible to play this fall.

23

STATE OF THE HUSKERS

BY **MICHAEL BRUNTZ**

Offensive lineman Alex Lewis revels in first Husker game after long path of obstacles to get to the field.

FEATURE

14-21

TWO-MINUTE DRILL

BY **LANNY HOLSTEIN, DARREN IVY, MICHAEL BRUNTZ, MICHAEL SCHAEFER**

Nebraska's offensive line unit is trying to model itself after the great "pipeline" units of the 1990s.

2014 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME	TV/SCORE
AUG. 30	FLORIDA ATLANTIC	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30P.M.	W, 55-7
SEPT. 6	MCNEESE STATE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	11:00 A.M.	ESPNU
SEPT. 13	@FRESNO STATE	FRESNO, CALIF.	9:30P.M.	CBSSN
SEPT. 20	MIAMI	MEMORIAL STADIUM	7:00 P.M.	ABC/ESPN
SEPT. 27	ILLINOIS	MEMORIAL STADIUM	8:00P.M.	BTN
OCT. 4	@MICHIGAN STATE	EAST LANSING, MICH.	7:00P.M.	ESPN/ABC
OCT. 18	@NORTHWESTERN	EVANSTON, ILL.	6:30P.M.	BTN
OCT. 25	RUTGERS	MEMORIAL STADIUM	TBA	TBD
NOV. 1	PURDUE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	TBA	TBD
NOV. 15	@WISCONSIN	MADISON, WIS.	TBA	TBD
NOV. 22	MINNESOTA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	TBA	TBD
NOV. 28	@IOWA	IOWA CITY, IA	TBA	TBD
DEC. 6	@BIG TEN TITLE GAME	INDIANAPOLIS, IND.	7P.M.	FOX

ALL GAMES ARE CST



ON THE COVER

Sophomore quarterback Tommy Armstrong Jr. hugs sophomore receiver Jordan Westerkamp after his 36-yard touchdown catch against Florida Atlantic. Westerkamp later made a behind the back catch that earned the top play of the day on ESPN SportsCenter. He finished with a team-high and career-high seven catches for 125 yards.

PHOTO BY JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

HUSKERS SHOW EXPLOSIVE ABILITY AGAINST OWLS

SATURDAY WAS THE TYPE OF GAME NEBRASKA FANS HAVE YEARNED FOR - YOU KNOW THE ONES WHERE THE STARTERS ARE OUT IN THE THIRD QUARTER AND THE RESERVES ARE IN THE GAME HAVING NEARLY THE SAME KIND OF SUCCESS AGAINST THE OUT-MANNED OPPONENT.

This is the way I remember non-conference games going in the 1990s when Nebraska was winning championships.

In those games Nebraska was expected to roll, the Huskers didn't disappoint. Saturday was a good start to 2014 after the Wyoming pushed the Huskers to the edge of defeat to start last season.

By the time the Owls had retreated back to their hole in Boca Raton, Florida, the Huskers had amassed 784 yards of total offense, including 498 on the ground, to set a Big Ten modern day record and fifth-best performance in school history. The previous record was 763 yards by Purdue against Indiana on Nov. 20, 2004.

Before getting too excited about NU's 55-7 victory over Florida Atlantic, it should be noted that it was against a team that finished 6-6 in the Sun Belt Conference last season.

That being said, there were many positive things that could be taken away from the Cornhuskers' nation-leading 29th-consecutive season-opening victory on Saturday before the 334th-straight sellout crowd, also a collegiate record.

First off, there were no turnovers committed by Nebraska - yes for the first time since the Southern Miss game to start the 2012 season. This ended a 26 -game streak of at least a lost fumble or interception by the Huskers.

Senior Ameer Abdullah showed why he is regarded as one of the pre-season favorites for the Heisman trophy averaging 11 yards per carry while rushing for a new career-high 232 yards before being pulled midway through the third quarter. He could have probably gained 400 yards had he been allowed to play a complete game.

The way it was, he became the eighth



player in school history to top 3,000 career rushing yards and finished the day as the sixth leading rusher in school history.

Nebraska's leading receiver Quincy Enunwa graduated, but sophomore Jordan Westerkamp showed he was ready to fill those shoes on a consistent basis with seven catches for 125 yards and one touchdown.

Senior Kenny Bell continued to rise up the all-time receiving charts as he too went over 100 receiving yards with four grabs for 116 yards. Bell, who is trying to become Nebraska's first ever receiver with 1,000 yards in a single season, joined Johnny Rodgers and Nate Swift as the only two receivers in school history with more than 2,000 career receiving yards.

After gaining 75 yards on the first drive of the game, Florida Atlantic only gained 51 yards against the Nebraska defensive starters and 125 total yards for the rest of the game, while punting nine times. When Florida Atlantic drove late in the fourth quarter, the second and third-stringers bowed up on fourth down and two and stopped the Owls.

Nebraska's two new kickers went 2 out of 2 on field goal attempts.

Punt returns continued to be an adventure although Demornay Pierson-El showed some flashes of actually getting positive yardage on one of his returns.

The defense lost leading pass rusher Randy Gregory on the first possession of the game to what head coach Bo Pelini called a minor injury.

There is still progress to be made during before a tough road test at Fresno State, but for one week, NU fans can feel really optimistic about what they saw on Saturday and what kind of potential this year's squad has.



Behind the N

Hooting & Hollering at FAU

PHOTOS BY MITCH OTTO, DARREN IVY, JOE MIXAN, JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: A group of Husker fans including from left, Cafe Mischo of Omaha, Marley Hook of Omaha, Brook Schelstraete of Crete, Sarah Nelson of Omaha, Kelly DeBoer of Cortland, Cecilla Ohme of Omaha and Lauren Gambaiana of Omaha, pose for a photo before the game. Father Don Noonan, left, and his son Dave Noonan enjoy the pre-game sunshine outside Memorial Stadium. Chase and Tucker Ehlers of Omaha pose for a photograph on the edge of the field at halftime. Zach Grunder of Lincoln accompanies Alec Hogan (banana) and Kyle Crowder (gorilla), both of Lincoln, as they stop for a photo outside of Memorial Stadium. Nebraska Athletic Director Shawn Eichorst visits with Bo Ruud during a pregame tailgate. Eichorst spends several hours before games visiting with Huskers fans in and around Memorial Stadium. Leyton and Hudson King of Lincoln stand in front of their father's wrapped Memorial Stadium truck with the real Memorial Stadium in the background. Natalie Stuntz, wife of former Husker quarterback Mike Stuntz, just moved back from Ohio and is expecting. Mike is at UNMC in residency studying to become an eye doctor. Mark Usasz (age 3) from Elba is having a good time with Mitch Usasz from Ottumwa, Iowa as they tailgated before the game. Jason Conant from Hastings brought from left: Gabe Conant (12), Sophia Conant (14) and Macrae Huyser (12) to enjoy a little Husker football. Danny and Lisa Kraft and daughters Oliva and Lexi of Papillion stop for a photograph outside of Memorial Stadium. Lonnie Johnson of Overton stands with his granddaughter Alaina Treffer of Wellington, Colorado, next to his 1939 Chevy as they tailgate before to game.

Nebraska sets Big Ten offensive record

STORY BY TERRY DOUGLASS | PHOTO BY JIMMY RASH

Nebraska's most prolific offensive output in nearly a quarter of a century was highlighted by career-best performances by several Cornhuskers in their 55-7 win over Florida Atlantic.

Leading the way was Nebraska I-back Ameer Abdullah. The senior rushed 21 times for a career-high 232 yards, bettering his previous best rushing total of 225 yards set last season against Illinois. The 232-yard effort was the 15th-best single-game rushing performance in Cornhuskers' history and the 18th time Abdullah topped 100 yards rushing in his career.

"What more can you say?" Nebraska offensive coordinator Tim Beck said of Abdullah. "If you get him in space, he's going to make some things happen. I thought our guys on the perimeter did a really good job of blocking and that allows those big runs to happen."

Quarterback Tommy Armstrong completed 15-of-29 pass attempts for a career-high 271 yards and two touchdowns for the Huskers. Armstrong surpassed his previous career-high passing total (173 yards last season against Northwestern) with 184 yard passing in the first half alone against Florida Atlantic.

Armstrong said he was especially pleased with long completions of 63 and 36 yards, respectively, to wide receivers Kenny Bell and Jordan Westerkamp.

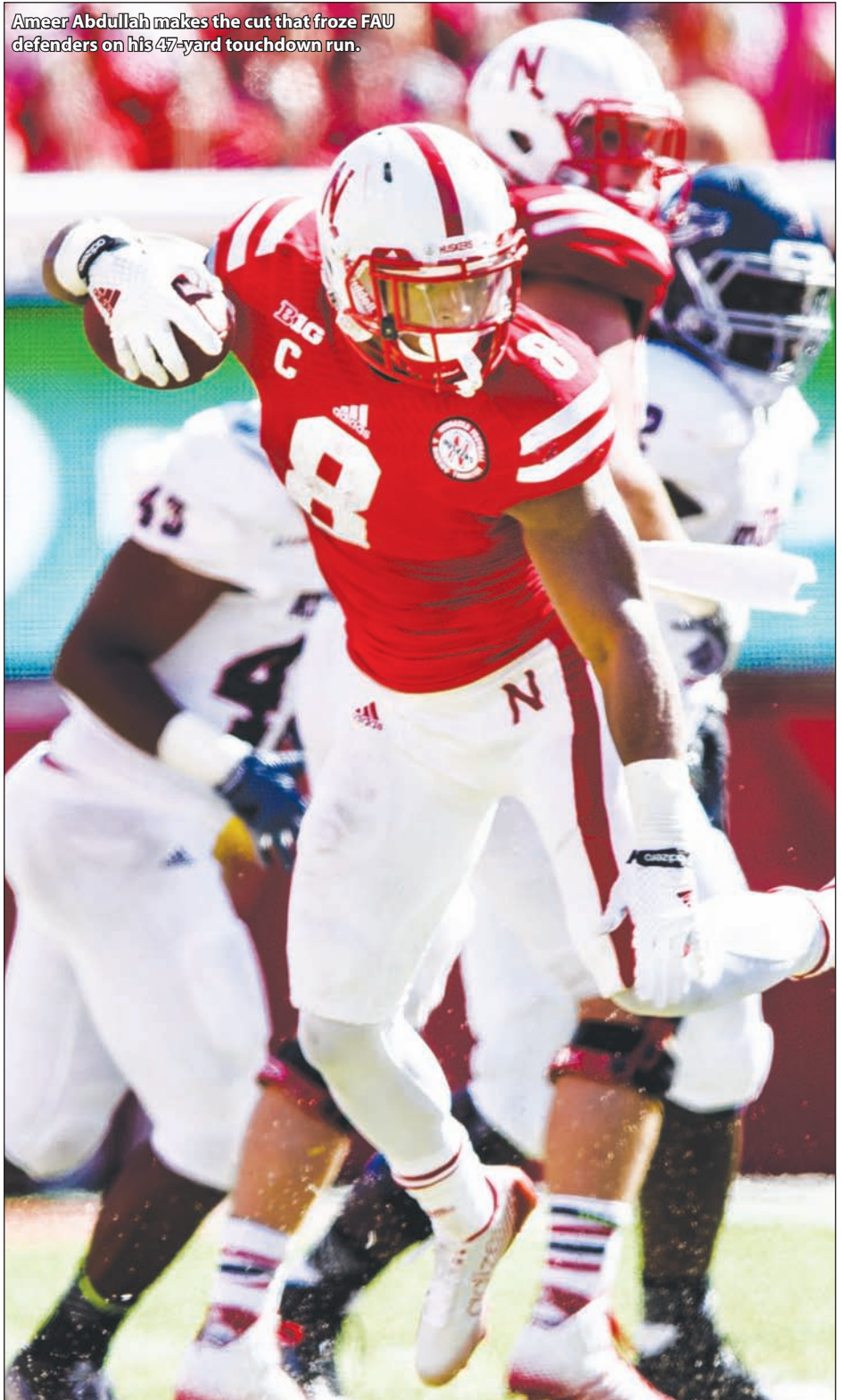
"I like it a lot," Armstrong said of throwing the deep ball. "We practice it a lot. We did a good job of picking the right matchups when (Florida Atlantic) pressed."

Westerkamp's seven receptions for 125 yards set new career highs for him in both categories. Backup I-back Terrell Newby recorded his first career 100-yard rushing game, carrying 16 times for 107 yards and two touchdowns.

Nebraska finished with 784 yards of total offense – the fifth-best performance in school history, but a new Big Ten Conference modern era record. It was the most total offense gained by the Huskers since they amassed 787 yards in 1991 against Utah State.

Beck said it wouldn't have been possible without a strong effort by the offensive line.

Ameer Abdullah makes the cut that froze FAU defenders on his 47-yard touchdown run.



Nebraska started Alex Lewis and Givens Price at tackle, Jake Cotton and Mike Moudy at guard and Mark Pelini at center.

"We just kind of kept things simple and

let them come off the ball and play hard," Beck said. "We were able to control the line of scrimmage, which allowed us to run and be able to flash the pass."

Defense regroup after first series of game

Zaire Anderson, left, and Greg McMullen bring down Florida Atlantic quarterback Jacquez Johnson.



STORY BY TERRY DOUGLASS | PHOTO BY JIMMY RASH

On several occasions last season, Nebraska defensive coordinator John Papuchis said one of his unit's biggest deficiencies was the inability to make adjustments on the fly.

For that reason, Papuchis said he was thrilled with the Cornhuskers' defensive performance in Saturday's 55-7 season-opening victory over Florida Atlantic at Memorial Stadium. After allowing the Owls to drive 75 yards for a touchdown on their first possession, FAU was held scoreless and limited to 125 yards of total offense the rest of the way.

"After that first drive, that didn't faze them," Papuchis said of his defensive players. "They learned from it. We got everything corrected on the sideline that

we wanted to get corrected and from there, it was pretty much lock-down defense.

"I was proud of them for that because that could have rattled the group a year ago. I thought that showed the maturity of where we are."

The difference for Nebraska's defense after the Owls' opening TD drive?

"It was just communication," said linebacker Zaire Anderson, who led the Huskers with seven tackles. "I think it was just the fact that we haven't been out there for a while and we had to get used to game speed."

Florida Atlantic finished with 200 yards of total offense. It marked the first time Nebraska has limited an opponent to 200 or fewer yards in a season opener since holding Nevada to 185 total yards

in 2007.

"First games are hard because you don't always know what to expect," Papuchis said. "Whatever they changed or tweaked over the offseason, you have to get adjusted to."

"You can simulate games all you want, (but) there is no simulation for (playing) in front of 92,000 people in a real game environment and against people that you're not familiar with."

Perhaps the only downside for Nebraska's defense was an undisclosed injury to defensive end Randy Gregory. The preseason All-American left the game early and watched the second half from the sideline in street clothes. NU head coach Bo Pelini said Gregory probably could've gone back into the game, but he decided to hold the junior out and will "take it day by day."

Huskers win 29th-consecutive opener

Nebraska sports pair of 100-yard rushers, receivers in 55-7 rout

STORY BY LANNY HOLSTEIN | PHOTO BY JOE MIXAN

This one was for Carl. Okay, no one actually said that, but it sure felt like Nebraska had a chip on its shoulder Saturday during its 55-7 win over Florida Atlantic.

The Huskers ran up and down the field to the tune of 784 yards of total offense - a Big Ten modern ear record.

It wasn't until late in the third quarter, after an eight-yard Demornay Pierson-El touchdown catch made it 45-7, that the starters came out on. Nebraska hadn't dominated a lesser opponent to this degree in recent years, so Saturday was pretty satisfying for the Huskers.

"I thought it was a good start for our team," coach Bo Pelini said. "We did what we should have done. We won a football game we should have won, and I thought it was a really good start in every phase."

Running back Ameer Abdullah was the brightest star in an offensive attack that had quite a few highlight performers. The senior Heisman darkhorse ran it 21 times for 232 yards and a score. His offensive line opened up holes all afternoon.

"I thought all of them played pretty well for the most part," offensive coordinator Tim Beck said of the offensive linemen. "Without looking at the film, it looked like there was a pretty good surge, and up front I thought (Florida Atlantic) was pretty good. Their two defensive tackles were good players."

The only thing missing for Abdullah was the touchdown numbers. He did crack the end zone in the second quarter with a 47-yard run, but at least two more touchdowns could have been his had the coaches not subbed him out in favor of Imani Cross and Terrell Newby near the goal line.

"He went out there to prove that he's the best back in the nation," quarterback Tommy Armstrong said of his teammate. "I truly believe that, but I think they have him the No. 2 or 3 back in the Big Ten, and I think that he's taken that to heart. He's going out there and proving to everyone why he's a contender to be the No. 1 running back."

Armstrong himself, the man under the microscope, wasn't perfect in his sophomore debut, but he did his part. Armstrong went 15-of-29 for 271 yards and a pair of touch-



Kenny Bell hauls in a 63-yard pass completion against the Owls.

downs through the air, adding 62 yards and a score on the ground.

"I liked what he did," Beck said. "I thought he managed the game really well, made some clutch throws when we needed him to. He just doesn't want to score touchdowns."

Defensively, Nebraska held Florida Atlantic to less than 130 yards of total offense until it took its starters out in the fourth quarter. The interior linemen, Vincent Valentine and Maliek Collins led the way after preseason All-American Randy Gregory came out of the game with a knee injury on the first defensive series.

"I thought that was huge," defensive coordinator John Papuchis said. "Obviously, I want Randy to play. He's certainly one of our best

players, but there is something to be said for having an opportunity to find out about your other guys, especially early in the year."

The line took advantage of an early injury to Owl starting quarterback Jaquez Johnson. When backup Greg Hankerson came in to replace him in the second quarter, it didn't bode well for FAU as the backup looked rattled all day.

In the end, the Owls managed to get to an even 200 yards on the day, but a fourth down stop by the reserve Husker defense kept them in single digits and had Nebraska feeling good moving forward.

"At the end of the day, I promise you we haven't come close to arriving as a football team," Pelini said. "It's not even close."

SUMMARY

SCORING

August 30, 2014

Memorial Stadium, Lincoln, Nebraska

Attendance: 91,441

	1	2	3	4	F
FLORIDA ATLANTIC	7	0	0	0	7
NEBRASKA	14	17	17	7	55

Q1 9:19 NEB - Armstrong Jr., Tommy 5 yd run (Brown, Drew kick) 13-86 5:41

4:56 FAU - Whitehead, Lucky 20 yd pass from Jaquez Johnson, (Joseph, Greg kick) 11-75 4:23

1:22 NEB - Westerkamp, Jordan 36 yd pass from Armstrong (Brown, Drew kick) 9-75 3:34

Q2 12:18 NEB - Drew Brown 44 yd field goal 9-49 2:30

6:29 NEB - Abdullah, Ameer 47 yd run (Brown, Drew kick), 4-72 1:38

2:30 NEB - Cross, Imani 3 yd run (Brown, Drew kick), 7-66 2:19

Q3 10:18 NEB - Newby, Terrell 2 yd run (Brown, Drew kick) 10-78 3:41

6:41 NEB - Pierson-El, Demornay 8 yd pass from Armstrong (Brown, Drew kick) 3-80 1:10

Q4 3:09 NEB - Bondi, Mauro 45 yd field goal 9-42 3:09

13:20 NEB - Newby, Terrell 1 yd run (Bondi, Mauro kick) 8-71 3:51

FAU	NU
0	7
7	7
7	14
7	17
7	24
7	31
7	38
7	45
7	48
7	55

TEAM STATS

	NEBRASKA	FLORIDA ATLANTIC
FIRST DOWNS	35	13
Rushing	24	7
Passing	11	5
Penalty	0	1
NET YARDS RUSHING	498	105
Rushing Attempts	57	30
Average Per Rush	8.7	3.5
Rushing Touchdowns	5	0
Yards Gained Rushing	498	126
Yards Lost Rushing	0	21
NET YARDS PASSING	286	95
Completions-Attempts-Int.	17-35-1	11-30-0
Average Per Attempt	8.2	3.2
Average Per Completion	16.8	8.6
Passing Touchdowns	2	1
TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS	784	200
Total offense plays	92	60
Average Gain Per Play	8.5	3.3
Fumbles: Number-Lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties: Number-Yards	6-60	3-22
PUNTS-YARDS	2-71	9-425
Average Yards Per Punt	35.5	47.2
Net Yards Per Punt	35.5	42.9
Inside 20	0	0
50+ Yards	0	3
Touchbacks	1	0
Fair catch	2	1
KICKOFFS-YARDS	10-650	2-130
Average Yards Per Kickoff	65.0	65.0
Net Yards Per Kickoff	37.0	45.5
Touchbacks	7	1
Punt returns: Number-Yards-TD	4-19-0	0-0-0
Average Per Return	4.8	0.0
Kickoff returns: Number-Yds-TD	1-14-0	3-105-0
Average Per Return	14.0	35.0
Interceptions: Number-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Fumble Returns: Number-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Possession Time	33:55	26:05
Third-Down Conversions	8 of 12	4 of 15
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	0 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	5-5	1-2
Touchdowns	5-5	1-2
Field goals	0-5	0-2
Sacks By: Number-Yards	1-9	0-0
PAT Kicks	7-7	1-1
Field Goals	2-2	0-1

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

FLORIDA ATLANTIC

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	LG	AVG
Warren, Jay	14	79	2	77	0	14	5.5
Johnson, Jaquez	4	23	4	19	0	14	4.8
Bussey, Henry	1	5	0	5	0	5	5.0
Hankerson, Greg	6	14	10	4	0	5	0.7
Moore, Tony	4	5	2	3	0	4	0.8
Whitehead, Lucky	1	0	3	-3	0	0	-3.0
Totals	30	126	21	105	0	14	3.5

PASSING	C-A-I	YDS	TD	LONG	SACK
Johnson, Jaquez	6-12-0	61	1	20	0
Hankerson, Greg	5-18-0	34	0	12	1
Totals	11-30-0	95	1	20	1

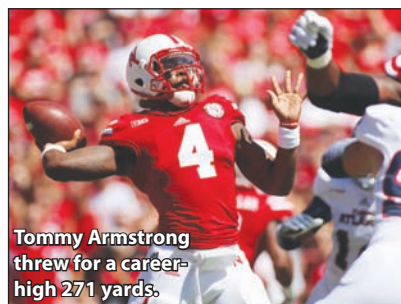
RECEIVING	NO	YARDS	TD	LONG
Whitehead, Lucky	5	40	1	20
Deleon, Alex	2	18	0	10
Moore, Tony	1	15	0	15
Harrop, Michae	1	12	0	12
Moise, Derek	1	10	0	10
Johnson, Jaquez	1	0	0	0
Totals	11	95	1	20

PUNTS	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	IN20	TB
Schomp, Dalton	9	425	47.2	66	0	1

RETURNS	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG
Whitehead, Lucky	0	0	0	3	105	44	0	0	0

FIELD GOALS	QTR	TIME	DISTANCE	RES
Joseph, Greg	2nd	08:07	45 yds	Missed

DEFENSE	TS	AT	TT	SACK-YD	TFL-YD	FF	FR-YD	INT-YD	BU	BLK	QBH
17 Parks, Dam.	8	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 Kirk, Andrea	5	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
43 Relf, Robert	5	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29 Neasman, Sh.	6	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21 Smith, D'Joun	5	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18 Milstead, Chr.	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
37 Lozandier, D.	3	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 Brown, Reggie	3	0	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
90 Ogbonda, Sh.	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 Hamilton, A.	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
48 Ballestros, J.	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23 Williams, Ra.	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 Leblanc, Crev.	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50 Ozdemir, Na.	2	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14 Henderickson, T.	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
59 Eugene, Rob.	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11 Coley, Trevon	0	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8 Mauro, Marc	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
98 Nagel, Haiden	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
78 Butcher, De.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
88 Stoshak, Jen.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 Bryant, Bran.	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
35 Helm, Grant	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34 Whitfield, Fr.	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Tommy Armstrong Jr. threw for a career-high 271 yards.

NEBRASKA

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	LG	AVG
Abdullah, Ameer	21	232	0	232	1	47	11.0
Newby, Terrell	16	107	0	107	2	43	6.7
Armstrong Jr., Tommy	7	62	0	62	1	17	8.9
Cross, Imani	3	32	0	32	1	25	10.7
Nelson, Jordan	5	32	0	32	0	9	6.4
Fyfe, Ryker	4	29	0	29	0	15	7.2
Nabity, Graham	1	4	0	4	0	4	4.0
Totals	57	498	0	498	5	47	8.7

PASSING	C-A-I	YDS	TD	LONG	SACK
Armstrong Jr., Tommy	15-29-0	271	2	63	0
Fyfe, Ryker	1-4-0	9	0	9	0
TEAM	0-1-0	0	0	0	0
Stanton, Johnny	1-1-0	6	0	6	0
Totals	17-35-0	286	2	63	0

RECEIVING	NO	YARDS	TD	LONG
Westerkamp, Jordan	7	125	1	36
Bell, Kenny	4	116	0	63
Pierson-El, Demornay	2	14	1	8
Cotton, Sam	1	10	0	10
Abdullah, Ameer	1	9	0	9
Turner, Jamal	1	9	0	9
Allen, Taariq	1	3	0	3
Totals	17	286	2	63

PUNTS	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	IN20	TB
Foltz, Sam	2	71	35.5	40	0	0

RETURNS	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG
Bell, Kenny	2	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pierson-El, Dem.	2	14	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moore, Alonzo	0	0	0	1	14	14	0	0	0

FIELD GOALS	QTR	TIME	DISTANCE	RES
Brown, Drew	2nd	12:18	44 yds	Good
Bondi, Mauro	3rd	03:09	45 yds	Good

DEFENSE	TS	AT	TT	SACK-YD	TFL-YD	FF	FR-YD	INT-YD	BU	BLK	QBH
13 Anderson, Za.	3	4	7	-	1-4	-	-	-	-	-	-
41 Santos, David	2	4	6	-	1-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
23 Davie, Daniel	5	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
43 Roach, Trevor	4	0	4	-	1-1	-	-	-	1	-	1
25 Gerry, Nathan	3	1	4	-	1-1	1	-	-	-	-	-
97 Rath, Logan	1	3	4	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	-	-
90 McMullen, Gr.	1	3	4	0.5-4	2-6	-	-	-	1	-	3
14 Rose, Jonath.	3	0	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28 Cockrell, By.	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
52 Banderas, Jo.	0	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
98 Valentin, Vin.	0	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
2C Williams, Kieron	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 Kalu, Josh	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
51 Love, Court.	1	0	1	-	1-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
95 Gangwish, J.	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
7A Collins, Maliek	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
55 Maurice, Rev.	0	1	1	0.5-5	1-5	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 Natter, A.J.	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24 Williams, Au.	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Mitchell, Josh	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-



Receiver Jordan Westerkamp hauls in a 36-yard touchdown.

RUSHING OFFENSE: What other grade do you assign here? Nebraska ran the ball all over Florida Atlantic and easily could've had 600 yards rushing if it had elected to devote more time to a running game that finished with 57 carries. [b]Ameer Abdullah[/b] was the workhorse for the Huskers with a career best 232 yards and a touchdown on 21 carries. He was joined in the triple digit club by [b]Terrell Newby[/b] who finished with 16 carries for 107 yards and two touchdowns. [b]Imani Cross[/b] wasn't called on much - just three carries - but he made them count for 32 yards and a touchdown. Tommy Armstrong also established the quarterback run game as he finished with 62 yards and a touchdown as well. The offensive line opened plenty of holes throughout the game, regardless of which unit was playing. Nebraska even adjusted to the way the officials were calling the game, cleaning up a few blocking penalties and playing clean football the rest of the way. - *Mike Schaefer*

A+

PASSING OFFENSE: [b]Passing Offense: B+[/b] Armstrong was somewhat erratic at times in the game, but for the most part he looked calm and comfortable in the pocket, taking shots down the field and really going after FAU's secondary. The Owls had a couple chances to make Armstrong pay, but couldn't corral either. The best part of the passing game was Armstrong's confidence on third down. The quarterback made a few really nice passes to keep drives going including a strong 10-yard curl to [b]Sam Cotton[/b] that was delivered at the perfect time. He got receivers [b]Jordan Westerkamp[/b] and [b>Kenny Bell[/b] involved in the game early and they were both factors throughout. Armstrong finished with 271 yards for the day - his completion percentage could've been a bit better but it was a solid first effort. - *Mike Schaefer*

B+

RUSHING DEFENSE: After the first Florida Atlantic possession, it looked like it was going to be a long day for the Husker rushing defense. The Huskers allowed a quick, 11-play, 75-yard touchdown drive where Florida Atlantic found running lanes and used misdirection to its advantage. But the Owls began to struggle after starting quarterback Jaquez Johnson left the game and the quarterback run game disappeared. Nebraska allowed just 105 yards rushing, and 3.5 yards per carry as the defensive line did a nice job of gumming up the line of scrimmage and defenders came downhill to snuff out run plays. - *Michael Bruntz*

A-

PASSING DEFENSE: There were a few blown coverages in Saturday's game, but we'll grade on a bit of a curve because it's the season opener and the occasional bust is to be expected. Nebraska's defensive line, even without Randy Gregory for the game, was able to get enough pressure on Florida Atlantic's quarterback to be disruptive. Nebraska didn't force a turnover, but the Husker secondary had its chances to be disruptive. More importantly, players like Byerson Cockrell and Nathan Gerry looked relatively comfortable in pass defense. - *Michael Bruntz*

A

KICKING/SPECIAL TEAMS: We saw some things to like, and some things that will need shaping up a bit. Both freshman Drew Brown and junior Mauro Bondi kicked the ball well in their field goal opportunities. The questions about how the long snapping would go, went unfounded this week as Josh Faulkenberry snapped well on all his opportunities. Nebraska's punt return unit looked good and not so good at times. Kenny Bell fumbled a catch out of bounds, and Demornay Pierson-El looked to be a block away from taking a punt to the house. The biggest question mark came on the kickoff coverage units, where the Huskers gave up several big returns that nearly went the distance. - *Michael Bruntz*

B-

GameNotes &

Drew Brown impresses in debut

Drew Brown followed in the footsteps of older brother Kris by starting in his first game as a Husker.

Drew began his Husker career with a 44-yard field goal into the north end of Memorial Stadium.

"I had in the back of my head that man, I have to knock down this kick to start off on the right note," Brown said. "I went out there, did my routine and found my target. There's nothing else I really did but go out there and hit the kick."

Brown is the brother of former Nebraska great Kris Brown, and he was in a battle all offseason with Mauro Bondi for the placekicking duties. When he got the nod on Saturday, it was a bit of a surprise to him.

"To be honest, I wasn't completely sure," Brown said. "I thought Mauro had a great camp, and I had a great camp, so it was pretty close the whole time. It came down to the very last day."

Browns knows all about the history Nebraska has at the kicker position because of his lineage.

"They've been solid every single year, and it's a great opportunity for me to add my name to that list and just be able to create a name for myself to go along with those guys that came before me," Brown said.

Even if there is some added pressure following up the likes of Alex Henery, Brett Maher and Pat Smith, Brown said he embraces that.

"Yeah, but pressure can be a good thing," he said. "It can either make you or break you. I like that added pressure because it really brings out the best in me."

SELLOUT STREAK REACHES 334

The sellout streak made it through another game.

Things looked dicey on Thursday, when there were reports of unsold tickets in general seating and up to 150 student tickets yet to be claimed, but Husker Nation pulled through to make it 334 games since the last ticket went unclaimed.

Husker defensive coordinator John Papuchis said after the game he was happy to see the streak continue.

"I follow it a little bit because I think it is a tremendous sellout streak and a testament to our fans," he said. "But I think at some point with any thing, there are only so many people."

"Eventually, the capacity to keep selling things out might change. I didn't really have any doubt, though, that our fans would sell it out. I think we have to greatest fans in college football."

The student section waned as the game got out of hand in the second half, but even the notoriously fickle southeast corner was crammed shoulder to shoulder at the opening kickoff.

"They were awesome all through the first half and really into the second half," Papuchis said. "And you know, the game gets a little out of hand."

Quoting sophomore QB Tommy Armstrong

Coach (Tim) Beck came up with this thing that the offense is a red storm. He says it is one thing if you hear thunder, thunder is a lot of talk. But lightning is something you see and when it touches down it crashes down and makes a big impact. That is what we want with our offense this year. We want to be the red storm. We want to be more on the side of lightning because when it touches down it crashes, people are afraid of lightning. Thunder they hear but you don't see anything. Our offense wants to be fast and physical and run the ball down the other team's throats.





Randy Gregory walks off the Memorial Stadium field with a bag of ice on his knee after getting banged up in the first quarter.

JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Emphasis on turnovers pays off

The record-breaking offensive numbers weren't most notable lines on the stat sheet, according to coach Bo Pelini. That description goes to the turnover column.

Neither Nebraska nor Florida Atlantic turned the ball over Saturday, and the Huskers, after going 26 games in a row with a turnover, made it though 60 minutes only putting it on the turf once.

Kenny Bell's muffed punt was the only thing standing between Nebraska and a squeaky clean slate.

"We didn't turn the football over," Pelini said. "We should have had a chance for a couple takeaways, a couple that we probably could have scored on, but I did like that we took care of the football on offense."

The last time Nebraska made it out of a game without throwing a pick or losing a fumble was the opening game of 2012 against Southern Miss.

Gregory misses most of game

Randy Gregory played only a handful of

snaps Saturday against Florida Atlantic. The defensive end suffered some sort of leg injury on Nebraska's first defensive series and never returned to the game.

"We'll find out (how bad it is)," Pelini said after the game. "He probably could have gone back in the game, but we decided not to. Probably going to take it day to day. It's hard to say right now."

Pelini said Gregory will undergo some tests on his leg to check the injury out. The coach wasn't sure what exactly happened to his star pass rusher, but he didn't seem too worried.

Gregory will be a player to watch against McNeese State, Pelini said.

Abdullah moves up all-time lists

Nebraska senior I-back Ameer Abdullah rushed 21 times for a career-high 232 yards in the FAU game.

The 232 rushing yards bettered his previous career high of 225 yards against Illinois in 2013.

Abdullah's rushing total marked the 15th-most rushing yards in school history and the

37th 200-yard rushing game in Nebraska history. Abdullah, who notched his 18th career 100-yard rushing game, has four career games of 150 rushing yards or more. His 232 yards were the second-most by a Husker in a season opener, trailing Marlon Lucky's 233 yards against Nevada in 2007.

With his 232 rushing yards, Abdullah increased his career rushing total to 3,209 rushing yards and became the eighth player in school history with 3,000 career rushing yards. Abdullah passed the late Ken Clark (3,037 yards) and Calvin Jones (3,153 yards) to move into the No. 6 spot on the NU career rushing list. Abdullah is just 120 yards from the top five on the NU career rushing list (3,329 yards, Rex Burkhead).

The 232-yard rushing effort marked Abdullah's 18th career 100-yard rushing game, the third-most in school history, and the most among active FBS players. Abdullah trails Mike Rozier (26) and Ahman Green (20). Abdullah came into today's game tied with Eric Crouch who had 17 career 100-yard rushing games.

FINAL SCORE: NEBRASKA 55, FAU 7



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: AUSTIN WILLIAMS (24) MAKES A TACKLE AGAINST FLORIDA ATLANTIC. (JIMMY RASH) JORDAN WESTERKAMP HAULS IN A 36-YARD TOUCHDOWN CATCH FROM TOMMY ARMSTRONG. (JIMMY RASH) TERRELL NEWBY GOES IN FOR ONE OF HIS TWO TOUCHDOWN RUNS. HE ALSO NOTCHED HIS FIRST 100-YARD RUSHING GAME. (JOE MIXAN) TOMMY ARMSTRONG PITCHES THE BALL. (JOE MIXAN) IMANI CROSS BURSTS THROUGH FOR A 25-YARD GAIN AND LATER SCORED A TOUCHDOWN. (JIMMY RASH) TREVOR ROACH PRESSURES FAU QUARTERBACK GREG HANKERSON. (JIMMY RASH) DEMORNAY PIERSON-EL RECEIVES CONGRATS AFTER HIS FIRST CATCH WENT FOR A TD. (JOE MIXAN)



2MinuteDrill

Matt Finnin, left, and Chris Long, right, battle in drills before the season-opener with Florida Atlantic.



**OFFENSIVE
LINE STRIVES
TO BE THE
NEW PIPELINE**

JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

By Darren Ivy, Lanny Holstein, Michael Bruntz, Mike Schaefer

The 2014 Nebraska offensive line shares some characteristics with the pipelines of old.

This rendition of the storied tradition doesn't claim to be at that level or competing with those units, but the mindset is the same. It's a tough-nosed group with a chip on its shoulder and a couple leaders on the left side.

Senior guard Jake Cotton and junior tackle transfer Alex Lewis bring a little nasty to a unit that was once known for just that. Those two guys are starting to rub off on the rest of the unit.

"I think me and Alex are just trying to do the best job we can to lead the group," Cotton said. "Every guy who will see the field, I think even the guys who won't, have brought a certain level of intensity to spring ball, and to the offseason workouts and everything, so to say that me and Alex have something that the other guys don't, I think is irresponsible because I think there's a room full of tough guys who are ready to go out there and kind of lay down the line."

Take a peek inside the Hawks Championship center, where Nebraska practices, and you will see a group of guys that isn't concerned with fancy football and getting the spotlight. These are a bunch of grinders with an old-school attitude.

Cotton, in particular is an old soul. The middle son of tight ends coach Barney Cotton, he shows up to practice with a mullet haircut and his gut hanging out underneath his shoulder pads and chest plate.

It's reminiscent of the mesh cut-off style jerseys Husker linemen wore in the 1990s.

Cotton is one of five captains chosen by the players to lead not just the offensive line but the entire team.

"When Coach Bo (Pelini) announced it yesterday that me and the rest of the guys were named captain, it was obviously a tremendous honor," he said. "It was hard to put into words what it means especially being here for five years and playing with everybody. It was just a tremendous honor that your teammates would put you in as a captain."

The way his teammates feel about Cotton is the same way he feels about the guy to his left.

Lewis may be new to the line and to the team, but he's been around since last season getting some off-field issues taken care of, and Cotton said he's bonded with the Colorado transfer.

"Alex is a fantastic player to play next to. I knew the day I hosted him on his official visit back in May of 2013 that he was going to be a perfect fit within our room, within our culture and even add to it," Cotton said. "He kind of had a tough road to get to where he is today, but last fall when he wasn't with the team and going to school he was still coming around with us, and so I never really lost contact with him. I always stayed in touch when he was going through stuff."

Lewis spent 45 days in jail this summer for misdemeanor assault charges stemming from an incident in Boulder. He was on campus last spring taking classes but wasn't allowed to practice or work with the team until he took care of his legal issues.

With all that cleared away, Lewis is set to give Cotton and the rest of the line another old-school slobber knocker up front.

"Playing next to him, he's fiery, he's competitive and there really wasn't any learning period with us," Cotton said of Lewis. "It just kind of clicked right away last spring."

The offensive line is going by the nickname "Hell in a Helmet" this season.

The name came from offensive coordinator Tim Beck.

"I know it has military origins," Cotton said. "I think it was a tank division. I think that's an honor to be compared to something so special and kind of bad you-know-whats."

HI'S TOP 5

ALL-TIME BEST TOTAL YARDAGE PERFORMANCES

Offensive lineman

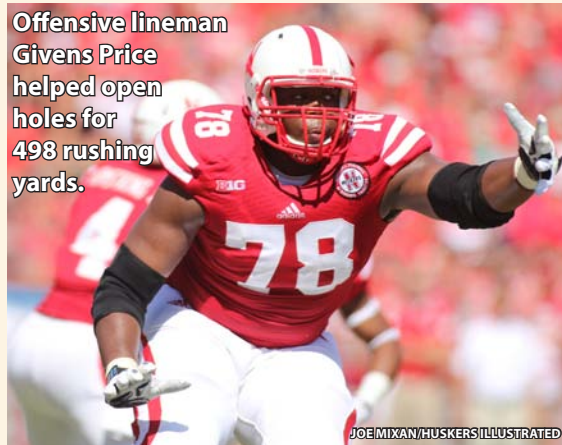
Givens Price

helped open

holes for

498 rushing

yards.



JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

- 1 883 - NEW MEXICO STATE (1982)**
Nebraska rushed for 677 yards and threw for 206.
- 2 799 - KANSAS (1978)**
Nebraska ran for 516 yards and threw for 283.
- 3 790 - MINNESOTA (1983)**
Nebraska tallied 595 yards on the ground and 195 through the air.
- 4 787 - UTAH STATE (1991)**
The Huskers totaled 617 rushing yards and 170 passing yards.
- 5 784 - FLORIDA ATLANTIC (2014)**
Nebraska rushed for 498 yards and passed for 286.

Nebraska set a modern-era Big Ten Conference record for total offense with its 784-yard outburst against Florida Atlantic. It marked the most yards a Bo Pelini-coached Husker team has gained in his time at Nebraska. However, it was not the most total yards a Nebraska team has ever put up. That honor goes to the 1982 team, which totaled 883 yards against New Mexico State.

Tight end Sam Cotton makes a catch during the 2014 spring game.



HILLMAN JETS WITH INSTEAD WITH

SAM COTTON

Nebraska sophomore tight end Sam Cotton is the youngest son of Nebraska associate head coach Barney Cotton. He is following in the footsteps of his oldest brother, Ben, as a tight end, while middle brother Jake, is one of five captains for the Huskers this season.

Story By LANNY HOLSTEIN • *Photo By* MITCH OTTO

What did you think of the shorter practices this fall?

"The practices were shorter, but the tempo was definitely a lot higher, so it wasn't the long grueling aspect of it where you would get tired, but everything was really packed down. You would get tired a lot quicker, but you get your work done a lot quicker, and the guys really like that."

What is it like having your dad as your coach?

"It's fun, and can be a little frustrating at times because it's your dad. Growing up, you know how your coach would give you stuff, and then you would come off to the sideline and your dad would be telling you stuff too. That part is down to one guy now, and I think I am really good at handling it."

What's the relationship like between you and your brothers and dad?

"It's really easy to talk football with all of them, but we have to take a step back and not consume ourselves with football."

Does your dad ever get you guys confused and call you by the wrong name?

"Oh, no. He won't do that. He calls us all Butch, actually."

What difference will it make going into games this year with a year of experience for you and Cethan Carter?

"Probably the biggest part is just feeling comfortable. When you are first getting into the playbook and stuff like that, it's hard to realize you are capable because you are thinking about reading this and reading that. The longer you play here, you play faster."

How would you compare the skills that you

and Cethan bring to the field?

"I'd say he's more explosive than me. He doesn't have to get much momentum to give a guy a good shock. He's really good at hitting guys in space. I'd say he's quicker and faster. I think that's kind of obvious, but I think we're both really good at in-line blocking."

In what areas are you stronger than him?

"I could say I'm faster, but then everybody would just laugh at that. It wouldn't even be in the story. We'll see."

You played some defensive end growing up (along with tight end). Was that the side of the ball where you wanted to play in college?

"I always thought I liked defense because you get a chance to hit somebody, and then once I got here to big boy football, I realized that if you are going to be a good tight end, hitting is exactly what you're going to have to do. I've grown to like that part a lot."

Are you more focused on the blocking and hitting part than the receiving part?

"Yeah. Knowing my role, I know I'm not going to be the fastest guy on the field, but I know I'm bigger than most tight ends, so I can use that to my advantage and hopefully block the snot out of some people."

Do you like the idea of being a receiving threat as well, though?

"Oh, yeah. Love that. It's block, block, block, and then all of a sudden, I'm slipping out and catching a ball. It's fun to get to do both. Tight end is one of the hardest positions because you have to do both. You don't get enough time blocking, and you don't get enough time receiving, but at the same time, we're the only position that gets to do both."

Take The Huskers With You!

Activate your
**FREE
FULL
ACCESS**
account today!



(Actual iPhone / iPad screens shown above)

As a valued subscriber to our magazine you also have **FREE FULL ACCESS** to our online suite of products including:

INCLUDED!

Huskers Illustrated E-Edition: A FREE online duplicate of the glossy magazine you can read on your PC/MAC, iPhone/iPad, and Android* device. Available to view for FREE before your printed copy arrives!

INCLUDED!

Huskers Illustrated Express: This FREE online only edition is published regularly throughout the season, and is jam-packed with the latest news on your Huskers. You can expect:

- Complete Coverage of UN Football & Basketball
- In-Depth Recruiting Coverage
- Coach & Player Features
- Game Previews & Analysis
- Columns from the Experts
- AND much, much more!

You can unlock free full access in minutes by activating your account online!

1

Go to: magazine.huskersillustrated.com and click on "Register for E-Edition/Express"

2

Enter your Subscription Account ID # and Street Address
(Enter exactly as they appear on your label)

3

Click continue, and fill in the information on the following page to activate your account.

***** ALL FOR ADC 400
40515 0000 T72 P1
Joe Cornhusker
12345 Cornhusker Way
Lincoln, NE 68506
Subscription Account ID

Your account is now registered for FREE FULL ACCESS!

Return to magazine.huskersillustrated.com at any time to read the **E-Edition** or **Express** at no additional cost. Just look for **Access E-Edition** or **Access Express** under **VIEW**, and enter with the email and password you created during registration.

Thanks so much, and let us know if you need any further help.

Huskers Illustrated Staff
magazine.huskersillustrated.com
support@huskersillustrated.com

*Android 2.2 or higher with Flash required. Not compatible with all devices.

HUSKERS NAME FIVE CAPTAINS

To close fall camp and open the season, Nebraska coach Bo Pelini had an important announcement regarding his football team's leadership.

"I wanted to announce who the team elected as team captains," Pelini said. "We have three on offense, Ameer Abdullah, Kenny Bell and Jake Cotton. And we have two on defense, Corey Cooper and Josh Mitchell."

The five captains were chosen by a team vote. Each is a senior, and that was presumably part of the criteria the team was looking for in selecting season long leaders for the second consecutive year.

In 2013, Pelini went to permanent captains for the first time at Nebraska, going away from the rotating representatives his team employed in his first five seasons. Offensive guard Jake Cotton said it's a big deal to be one of the chosen few.

"It was obviously a tremendous honor," he said. "It was hard to put into words what it means especially being here for five years and playing with everybody. It was just a tremendous honor that your teammates would put you in as a captain."

Cotton's father, tight ends coach Barney Cotton, was proud to see one of his son named a team leader.

"I had a handshake with my dad walking out onto the field yesterday, I could tell he was very proud and I was very lucky to have that moment with my father after that," Jake Cotton said. "The other four guys who were named captain weren't lucky enough to be able to shake their dads' hand after getting news like that, so I'm really lucky to have that."



JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Nebraska captains Kenny Bell, Corey Cooper, Jake Cotton, Josh Mitchell and Ameer Abdullah head out for the coin toss against FAU.



JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Abdullah was named captain for the second year in a row, making him just the eighth two-time captain in Nebraska history.

"It means a lot," the running back said. "You know, I've been here four years now. I've seen the caliber of

players that have been chosen to be captain of this team, and to be with the likes of those guys is really an honor."

In his final year as a Husker, Abdullah said he takes his role as a captain extremely seriously.

It's more than just an hon-

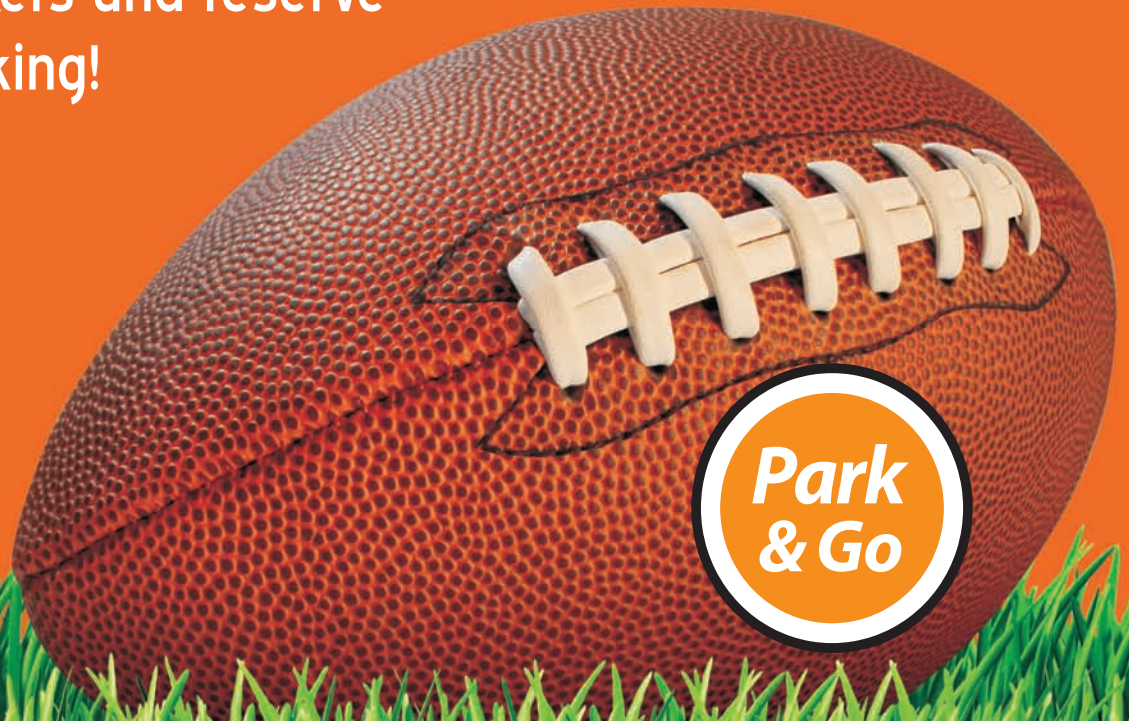
orary title to the workhorse back.

"Just to set the standard every week," Abdullah said of his responsibilities. "The football season is a long grind. You know a lot of people are excited the first game to get back out there, you know the second game. As the

GO-PARK-WIN!

Don't spend valuable pre-game time searching for parking before Husker kickoffs. Reserve your parking online for one game or the entire season at one of our convenient City garages. You'll save time and money AND qualify to win valuable prizes! We're giving away two Big Red Weekend Packages that include two tickets to the game, \$100 in Husker merchandise and a \$50 restaurant gift certificate.

It's easy to sign up at ***parkandgo.org***. So Go-Park-Win with the Huskers and reserve game day parking!



season goes on you get worn out and kind of lose that fire, but I want to be the spark for the team. I want to lead the right way. I want to set the tone of what it means to be a winner.”

HUSKERS FEELING GOOD DESPITE INJURIES

Nebraska suffered a pair of important injuries in fall camp that may have derailed the team a year ago.

When linebacker Michael Rose and nickelback Charles Jackson went down with knee injuries this season though, the Huskers rolled on without them.

“Any time you lose good football players, you take a hit. You can’t just replace guys because those guys are all good football players,” Pelini said. “But we feel good at this point in time.”

The injuries, along with the departure of defensive tackle Aaron Curry and the ineligibility of safety LeRoy Alexander came in a short period of time right before the season. The timing wasn’t great, according to Pelini.

“If it were earlier, then maybe we could plan certain things and guys would have an opportunity to learn to step up and show the ability to help us,” he said. “Is it good that we lost them? Absolutely not. I think that the people that have stepped into those roles have done really well. I feel good going in.”

PELINI TRYING OUT NEW CLOTHING

Nebraska coach Bo Pelini showed up to his first press conference of the season in a red blazer, turning a few heads.

The usual Husker polo got a rest in favor of the blazer because Pelini said he was paying his respects to a couple of coaching legends.

“You know, it’s the



Nebraska quarterback Ryker Fyfe saw action against Florida Atlantic on Saturday.

JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

125th year (of Nebraska football), and I wanted to pay my respects to Coach (Bob) Devaney and Coach (Tom) Osborne. I was actually just downstairs trying on some different things we’ve been thinking about doing for game day, and I really didn’t have time to change.

Pelini has been quite the fashionista this offseason. He broke the news about Nebraska’s alternate jerseys for the Illinois game by modeling one in front of his team. It made for a few laughs when the coach removed his tinted visor and

helmet, reveling himself after jumping around and yelling at his team.

As for the red blazer, it may make another appearance or two on the Husker head coach.

“I like the look,” Pelini said.

WALK-ONS EARN SCHOLARSHIPS

It went a little more under the radar than normal, but Nebraska once again awarded scholarships to a few walk-on players this fall.

Wide receivers Sam Burch and Brandon Reilly were put

on scholarship along with punter Sam Foltz. The trio of in-state kids are in line to play some significant minutes this season after breaking onto the field a year ago.

And they may not be alone in earning a free education.

“There will be a few other walk-ons who will go on scholarship this year, and we’ll announce that at a later time when all the i’s get dotted and t’s get crossed,” Pelini said.

Back-up quarterback Ryker Fyfe confirmed after the Florida Atlantic game that he is now on scholarship



RECRUITING NOTEBOOK

BY MICHAEL SCHAEFER

RECRUITING EDITOR

HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

2015 quarterback recruiting hits snags

Nebraska's quarterback options are dwindling for the 2015 class as the Huskers missed out on key target Lamar Jackson, when the four-star from Boyton Beach announced his commitment to Louisville on Aug. 30.

Jackson visited the Huskers in June as part of offensive coordinator Tim Beck's quarterback camp. By all accounts things went well and the Huskers continued a dogged pursuit of adding Jackson. There seemed to be a scheduled official visit for the Miami weekend but that might be called into question with Jackson's recent decision to choose the Cardinals.

The Huskers liked Jackson because of his dual-threat approach to the position. Jackson was one of the top quarterbacks in the country and his passing at the camp greatly intrigued the Huskers.

Nebraska does have one commitment at the quarterback spot already, but things aren't quite settled with Kevin Dillman at this time.

Dillman elected to stay at Denton (Texas) Guyer despite being declared ineligible by

University Interscholastic League in mid-August.

The governing body for Texas high school athletics ruled that Dillman would be ineligible to play varsity sports at Guyer for the 2014-15 school year. The quarterback, originally from Sweden, transferred into the school district from California back in February.

Dillman, who missed most of last season with an Achilles injury, had expected to compete with fellow transfer Shawn Robinson for the quarterback position at Guyer. He chose to attend Guyer back in February because of the school's strong reputation in developing quarterbacks.

According to sources in Texas, Dillman visited a nearby private school, Liberty Christian, but despite the opportunity to enroll there and play quarterback he has chosen to stay at Guyer where he'll play junior varsity as a senior, likely because he prefers to continue to work with that coaching staff to develop as a quarterback.

Nebraska has long been in the picture with Dillman as

the Huskers started recruiting him when he first came on the scene in the United States at La Mirada High School in California. NU assistants Tim Beck and Rich Fisher built a relationship with Dillman early and maintained it for several years.

This past April, Dillman and his family (who still live in Sweden) came up to Nebraska for a visit. During the visit the quarterback – who held more than 20 offers – decided it was time for him to make a commitment and shut things down.

Things opened back up for Nebraska – who still holds Dillman as a commitment – when news of a potential ineligibility ruling popped up in late May that threatened to cut away Dillman's season. Besides Jackson the Huskers also took a look at J.W. Ketchum – but there are a few legitimate character concerns there, as he's had to transfer schools because of it.

Nebraska could just look to move on to 2016 where the team has already identified a couple quarterbacks that it likes with Tristen Wallace as

an early favorite. The DeSoto, Texas signal-caller already visited for Big Red Weekend and has plans to come up for the Miami game. Wallace has said numerous times that he loves NU's offense and has watched a lot of videos of Tommie Frazier. This is his first season as varsity quarterback.

Including another quarterback in this smaller 2015 class could be tricky as the Huskers already have five quarterbacks on the roster and all of them now under scholarship. No one of the group is older than a redshirt sophomore at this time.

The emergence of A.J. Bush and Zack Darlington during fall camp gives the Huskers two additional weapons. Adding a seventh quarterback – if Dillman stays in the class – would be a waste of a scholarship that could go elsewhere. As a class on the whole, NU has 12 commitments and is looking to finish anywhere from 17 to 20.

N

Alex Lewis reflects on long path to first game as a Husker lineman

BY MICHAEL BRUNTZ

MUCH WAS MADE COMING INTO the season opener against Florida Atlantic about what kind of changes would be made to the Tunnel Walk – would there be smoke and fireworks? Would the Huskers still walk out to “Sirius?”

For junior offensive tackle Alex Lewis, those questions were immaterial. For a time, the question was whether Lewis would run out of the tunnel in Memorial Stadium at all. That moment, where players run from the shadows of the tunnel into the din of 90,000 screaming fans, kept Lewis going through the hardest year of his life.

“It was something I thought about ever since the incident happened May 11, 2013,” Lewis said. “It made me stay straight. When I had to serve my jail time, that’s something you look forward to. It’s a dark and negative time in your life and when you think of something like this, with the players that are around you and the coaches who support you, that’s awesome.”

That incident Lewis referred to happened in Boulder, Colorado, a matter of hours after Lewis had visited Nebraska and decided to transfer from Colorado to Nebraska and follow in the footsteps of his father Bill, who earned All-America honors for the Huskers as a center in the 1980s.

While out celebrating friends’ graduations in Boulder, Lewis and a former Colorado football player got in a fight with an Air Force Academy cadet. Lewis wound up pleading guilty to third degree assault charges, but while his case wound its way through the courts, Lewis’ future was in the air. He enrolled at Nebraska in the fall, but was unable to join the football program, essentially serving a suspension for a full semester while he got his life back on track.

Lewis’ fall semester last year was a dizzying series of meetings and tests to get his life back on track. Lewis said he met weekly with Nebraska’s dean of students, a spiritual leader on campus and Nebraska associate A.D. Jamie Williams. Lewis also attended Alcoholics Anonymous and anger management meetings, underwent a substance abuse evaluation and was regularly tested for drugs and alcohol as part of his probation.

“It was a long process, but in those paths you can go left or you can go right or you can go left and I chose right,” Lewis said.

During that process, Lewis said Nebraska’s players and coaches regularly checked in with him to see how he was doing and offer an encouraging word and a good example.

Lewis joined the team in January, and in spring practice was locked in battles with All-American defensive end Randy Gregory. Lewis, who started at both guard and tackle during his first two years at Colorado, showed from the first practice of the spring that he was a capable left tackle and a ferocious run blocker. He and Gregory often mixed it up, trying to get the best of the other in one-on-one drills.

“It’s a battle in fall camp with that guy,” Lewis said of Gregory. “He’s the best defensive

end I’ve played against. He’s got the best pass rush I’ve played against. He’s got the best jab rush off the first move. I love playing against the kid. We’ve become good friends off the field since our battles have heightened. It’s awesome to be around such a great character. He’s going to pull the best out of me.”

Lewis ended the spring as Nebraska’s top left tackle, but he still had the May incident hanging over his head. He had been sentenced to 45 days in jail, and ended up serving a little less than a month in a Colorado in May and early June.

Teammates like Tommy Armstrong regularly wrote letters to Lewis while he was in jail. So too did Ameer Abdullah’s family. Lewis said he was grateful for that support.

“I’m 180 degrees different. When I was at Colorado, I didn’t have my head on straight. I was in a dark place,” Lewis said. “When I was sitting out last year, I had every teammate talking to me, always asking how I was doing and getting me on the right side and showing me how I could live myself in a positive way and not a negative way. I owe the school everything I’ve become today as a man, and it’s awesome and I’m grateful for it.”

Which brings us to Saturday, when Lewis played his first game in a Nebraska uniform. Lewis is well aware of the history at Nebraska. Though he grew up in Arizona, the 6-foot-6, 290-pound lineman has family in Nebraska and attended Nebraska games growing up. Lewis said he spoke with his parents the night before the season opener and the opportunity he’s been given.

“I talked to my dad and my mother last night and it’s amazing to talk about the chills you get during the Tunnel Walk,” Lewis said. “You see the sign right above that says, ‘I play for Nebraska’ right after that you see 92,000 people cheering. It sends chills down your spine. I know my dad was probably up there in tears, and he wouldn’t like to admit it, but I bet he was. He’s proud of the man I’ve become through the adversity I’ve faced and I’m ready to roll now.” **N**

*Read daily Husker reports from
Michael Bruntz at
HuskersIllustrated.com
Follow him on Twitter
@michaelbruntz*



“I’m 180 degrees different. When I was at Colorado, I didn’t have my head on straight. I was in a dark place... I owe [UNL] everything I’ve become today as a man and it’s awesome and I’m grateful for it.”

Scouting Report



McNeese State Cowboys



Highly-ranked FCS opponent opens 2014 with trip to face red-hot Nebraska. | DOUG GRIFFITHS

McNeese State will come to Lincoln with plenty of winning tradition on its resume.

In fact, the Cowboys had won a record 13 Southland Conference championships, having a winning percentage of .741 in conference games since 2000.

They also have recorded four undefeated regular seasons in school history and since becoming a member of the Southland Conference in 1972, the Cowboys have won 10 or more games 11 times.

This year's McNeese State team is ranked ninth in the country in the preseason FCS coaches poll and will be making

their 2014 debut against the Cornhuskers in Memorial Stadium.

COWBOYS ARE PERHAPS NO PUSHOVER

Nebraska better not take McNeese State for granted.

In addition to having plenty of winning tradition on its side, the Cowboys are said to have both power and speed at running back, some consistent receivers who can make eye-opening plays and a veteran offensive line.

Apparently there's a lot to talk about on defense, too. McNeese State's defense has talent and depth.

THE VITALS

WHAT: McNeese State @ #22 Nebraska

WHEN/WHERE: 11 a.m. CDT, Sept. 6 in Lincoln (Memorial Stadium capacity 87,000)

TV: The game will be televised by ESPN.

Radio: The Husker Sports Network broadcasts the action to 27 statewide radio markets. KFAB (1110 AM) serves as the Omaha affiliate and KLIN (1400 AM) serves as the Lincoln affiliate, while KRVN (880 AM) is a third affiliate that reaches around the state. Join Greg Sharpe (play-by-play), Matt Davison (color and co-hosts Husker Game Day Pregame Show), Lane Grindle (sideline/post-game, co-hosts Husker Game Day), Steve Taylor (co-hosts Husker Game Day Show and Big Red Reaction Show) and Matt Coatney (hosts Big Red Reaction Show and helps anchor postgame studio coverage) for all the action. The game can also be heard live on Huskers.com and SIRIUS Satellite Radio.

COACHES: Nebraska: Bo Pelini (59-24 overall, 34-14 in the Big Ten, seven seasons). McNeese State: Matt Viator (62-27 overall, 41-14 in the Southland Conference..., eight seasons).

SERIES: Nebraska leads 1-0.

McNeese State FAST FACTS

Location: Lake Charles, La.

Enrollment: 8,900

All-Time Football Record: 464-273-13

All-Time Southland Conference Record: 161-83-7

Lettermen Returning/Lost: 40/23

Starters Returning/Lost: 16/12 (counting specialists)

Offensive Formation: Multiple Pro

Defensive Formation: 4-2-5

DID YOU KNOW?

Last season McNeese State beat FBS member South Florida, 53-21, scoring the most points ever by an FCS team against a BCS squad, as well as having the largest margin of victory.

2014 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Result
Sept. 6	@ Nebraska	
Sept. 13	Prairie View A&M	
Sept. 27	Arkansas Tech	
Oct. 4	Nicholls	
Oct. 11	@ Sam Houston State	
Oct. 18	Abilene Christian	
Oct. 25	@ University of Incarnate Word	
Nov. 1	@ Northwestern State	
Nov. 8	Stephen F. Austin	
Nov. 15	@ Southeastern Louisiana	
Nov. 22	Lamar University	



COURTESY OF MCNEESE STATE SPORTS INFORMATION

Running back Kelvin Bennett is a player to watch for McNeese State.



AND THE STARTING QUARTERBACK WILL BE ...?

McNeese State coach Matt Viator has yet to decide on who he'll start at quarterback against Nebraska or least isn't telling the media.

Viator is having to replace three-and-a-half year starter and record-breaker Cody Stroud (2,935 passing yards and 28 touchdowns in 2013).

Stroud's replacement will be either Kansas State transfer Daniel Sams, who might be the favorite, Will Briscoe or Tyler Bolfing, who was last year's backup who came into training camp as the starter.

Sams rushed for over 800 yards last season and earned honorable mention All-Big 12 honors. He also threw for 452 yards and four touchdowns.

"Everybody is asking me the quarterback question," Viator said. "We have some tough decisions to make. You have to decide and some guys have done nothing wrong."

STRONG UP FRONT

The Cowboys return four offensive line starters and appear to have depth they haven't had in years.

McNeese State did lose All-American Arinze Agada, but have senior Antoine Everett, a preseason All-American the The Sports Network, back. Everett goes 6-3, 325. He has caught the eye of several NFL scouts last season.

Plus, returning are Nick Gorman (6-3, 293) and Quentin March (6-3, 310), who earned conference honorable mention accolades last fall.

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

Here's a look at where McNeese State ranked last season in some critical statistics in its conference.

Scoring Offense (2nd, 40.0)
 Scoring Defense (4th, 28.5)
 Total Offense (4th, 450.9)
 Total Defense (5th, 416.1)
 Rushing Offense (3rd, 208.9)
 Rushing Defense (5th, 173.2)
 Pass Offense (5th, 242.0)
 Pass Defense (5th, 242.9)
 Turnover Margin (3rd, +4)

REMEMBER WHEN?

No. 24 Nebraska 38, McNeese State 14

Oct. 5, 2002 at Lincoln

After getting benched a week earlier in a loss to Iowa State, Nebraska quarterback Jammal Lord responded in a big way.

He set Nebraska records for total offense and rushing yards by a quarterback in the lopsided victory over Division I-AA McNeese State.

Three weeks prior, Lord threw three interceptions in a 40-7 loss at Penn State and tossed a pick and fumbled in the 36-14 loss at Iowa State. The loss to the Cyclones dropped the Huskers out of the top 25 for the first time since 1981.

Lord rushed for 218 yards on 17 carries and three touchdowns. That effort broke the single-game rushing record held by Tommie Frazier in the 1996 Fiesta Bowl against Florida.

Lord also completed 12-of-18 passes for 151 yards with a touchdown and an interception. His 369 total yards topped Eric Crouch's record of 360 set in the 2001 loss to Colorado.

Nebraska gained 595 total yards against McNeese State, which entered the game ranked second in I-AA.

DID YOU KNOW?

- In the last 14 years, McNeese State has compiled 13 winning seasons.

- The Cowboys went 10-3 overall last season, including 6-1 in the Southland Conference (second place behind South-eastern Louisiana).

- In training camp, people were raving about McNeese State junior defensive end Brian Hine (6-foot-2, 222 pounds). The junior college transfer is said to have a very good motor.

- McNeese State has made 15 appearances in the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs (FCS), more than doubling the appearances of any other Southland Conference school. The Cowboys have made two national championship appearances (1997 and 2002) and another semifinal spot (1995).

- College Football Hall of Famer R.C. Slocum is a McNeese State alum as is Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame inductee Joe Dumars.

Coach Matt Viator

Resume:

Has a 62-27 record in eight seasons at McNeese State. Viator is a three-time finalist for the Eddie Robinson National Coach of the Year Award



(2013, 2007, 2006). He has coached the Cowboys to three Southland Conference Championships (2009, 2007, 2006) and is the only head coach in conference history to have a winning season every year (minimum eight seasons).

KNOW YOUR FOE

Aaron Sam, DB, 5-9, 182, Sr.



Returns for his final season after leading the Cowboys in tackles last year with 84, including 8.5 tackles for loss. Sam is a preseason first-team all-conference

selections.

Ernest Celestie, WR, 5-11, 190, Sr.



Was granted an extra of eligibility by the NCAA for a year he lost when he was at Texas Tech as a freshman. Celestie made 31 catches for 565 yards and five touchdowns last fall.

Kevin Dorn, DL, 5-10, 263, Sr.



Should help lead what should be a strength of the McNeese State defense. As a junior, Dorn was credited with 52 tackles, five sacks and 7.5 tackles for loss.

2013 RESULTS (10-3 overall)

Date	Opponent	Result
Aug. 31	@ South Florida	W, 53-21
Sept. 7	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	W, 58-14
Sept. 14	West Alabama	W, 44-42
Sept. 21	Weber State	W, 43-6
Sept. 28	@ Northern Iowa	L, 6-41
Oct. 5	@ Central Arkansas	W, 59-28
Oct. 19	Sam Houston	W, 31-23
Oct. 26	@ Nicholls State	W, 55-30
Nov. 2	SE Louisiana	L, 7-41
Nov. 9	@ SF Austin	W, 69-38
Nov. 16	Northwestern State	W, 43-17
Nov. 23	@ Lamar	W, 42-38
Dec. 7	Jacksonville State	L, 10-31

BIGTEN BEAT | COMPILED BY DOUG GRIFFITHS

Wisconsin's second-half collapse puts damper on opening week



Senior Derek Foster carries out the flag for the enhanced tunnel walk against Florida Atlantic.

EAST DIVISION

2014 Standings

Team	Overall	Conference
Indiana	1-0	0-0
Michigan State	1-0	0-0
Penn State*	1-0	0-0
Rutgers	1-0	0-0
Michigan	1-0	0-0
Maryland	1-0	0-0
Ohio State	1-0	0-0

WEST DIVISION

2014 Standings

Team	Overall	Conference
Iowa	1-0	0-0
Nebraska	1-0	0-0
Minnesota	1-0	0-0
Illinois	1-0	0-0
Purdue	1-0	0-0
Wisconsin	0-1	0-0
Northwestern	0-1	0-0

* Not eligible for postseason

Week 1 Results

Minnesota 42, Eastern Illinois 20
Rutgers 41, Washington State 38
Mich. State 45, Jacksonville State 7
Nebraska 55, Florida Atlantic 7
Penn State 26, Central Florida 24!
Ohio State 34, Navy 17
Illinois 28, Youngstown State 17
Indiana 28, Indiana State 10
Iowa 31, Northern Iowa 23
Michigan 52, Appalachian State 14
Purdue 43, Western Michigan 34
California 31, Northwestern 24
Maryland 52, James Madison 7
LSU 28, Wisconsin 24

Sept. 6 Games

McNeese State at Nebraska, 11 a.m.
Michigan at Notre Dame, 6:30 p.m.
Western Illinois at Wisconsin, 11 a.m.
Central Michigan at Purdue, 11 a.m.
Northern Illinois at Northwestern, 2:30 p.m.,
Middle Tennessee State at Minnesota, 2:30 p.m.
Ball State at Iowa, 2:30 p.m.,
Western Kentucky at Illinois, 11 a.m.
Virginia Tech at Ohio State, 7 p.m.
Akron at Penn State, 11 a.m.,
Michigan State at Oregon, 5:30 p.m.
Maryland at South Florida, 2:30 p.m.,
Howard at Rutgers, 11 a.m., BTN

For a half, it looked as though Wisconsin was going to make a statement to the college football world and help the Big Ten on its quest to restore some of the mojo it's lost due to recent big game failures, particularly against SEC teams.

However, LSU mounted an impressive second-half rally. Trailing 24-7 with under eight minutes to play in the third quarter, the Tigers used a fake punt to get momentum and ended up winning 28-24.

The loss for Wisconsin was painful on many fronts. It really needed the victory to help its otherwise weak schedule, which doesn't feature Michigan, Michigan State, Penn State or Ohio State. A win for the Badgers could've meant being undefeated into the month of November.

As if the loss itself wasn't tough enough

to swallow, Wisconsin has to stomach some key injuries to its defensive line. Furthermore, the Badgers, known now for years as being a predominately running team, are perhaps as one-dimensional as ever as their passing game did little to nothing against LSU.

With Wisconsin's loss, the Big Ten went 12-2 in Week One.

Two of those 12 victories were courtesy of Big Ten newcomers Rutgers and Maryland.

The Scarlet Knights' victory against Washington State in Seattle was arguably the Big Ten's most impressive win of week one.

Following *Huskers Illustrated* takes a look at some of the latest football happenings at other Big Ten schools.

How Nebraska's 2014 Opponents Fared?



FLORIDA ATLANTIC
Result: L, Nebraska 55-7
Up Next: Alabama
Current Record: 0-1



MCNEESE STATE
Result: N/A
Up Next: Nebraska
Record: 0-0



FRESNO STATE
Result: L, USC 52-13
Up Next: Utah
Record: 0-1



MIAMI
Result: Louisville (N/A)
Up Next: Florida A&M
Record: 0-0



ILLINOIS
Result: W, Young. State 28-17
Up Next: Western Kentucky
Current Record: 1-0



MICHIGAN STATE
Result: W, Jacksonville State 45-7
Up Next: Oregon
Record: 1-0



NORTHWESTERN
Result: L, California 31-24
Up Next: Northern Illinois
Record: 0-1



RUTGERS
Result: W, Wash. State 41-38
Up Next: Howard
Record: 1-0



PURDUE
Result: W, W. Michigan 43-34
Up Next: Central Michigan
Current Record: 1-0



WISCONSIN
Result: L, LSU 28-24
Up Next: Western Illinois
Record: 0-1



MINNESOTA
Result: W, 42-20 Eastern Illinois
Up Next: Middle Tenn. State
Record: 1-0



IOWA
Result: W, Northern Iowa 31-23
Up Next: Ball State
Record: 1-0

WEST



BIG TEN

EAST



comeback, but came up short.

They got to within seven with 5:18 remaining in the game and had the ball on Cal's 27, but quarterback Trevor Siemian was sacked and he threw an interception on the next play.

Siemian was picked off twice and threw for 229 yards, completing 23-of-44 passes.

Northwestern's defense allowed 414 yards, 300 of which came through the air. Meanwhile, it managed just 108 yards rushing.

PURDUE BOILERMAKERS

The Boilermakers hadn't experienced a win over a FBS school since 2012, but their opening home triumph over Western Michigan was a much needed victory for a program that went just 1-11 in 2013.

It also was second-year coach Darrell Hazel's first win over a FBS school at Purdue.

The star of the game was defensive back Frankie Williams whose interception and two punt returns led to 17 points.

Another star was Raheem Mostert, who ran for a career-best 146 yards and a touchdown.

WISCONSIN BADGERS

The Badgers started Tanner McEvoy at quarterback and he was just 8-of-24 for a mere 50 yards.

Wisconsin's longest completion against LSU was 14 yards.

Also, worrisome was the loss fifth-year of senior nose guard Warren Herring to what appeared to be a right knee injury in the third quarter.

When Herring went down, it meant Wisconsin had lost two-thirds of its starting rebuilt defensive line.

The other injured defensive lineman, who went down against LSU, was defensive end Konrad Zagzebski.



The World's Best Licorice
from the **Licorice Ladies** at

Visit us in Lincoln's
Haymarket District for
**FREE
SAMPLES**
Entrance on 8th Street
between P & Q



Black Licorice from 13 Countries • Bulk, Baskets and Samplers • Nationwide Delivery
803 Q Street, Suite 300 • Lincoln, NE 68508 • 402-488-2230 • 1-800-LICORICE (542-6742)
www.licoriceinternational.com

Huskers Illustrated's Projected Nebraska Depth Chart

DEFENSE

P/Holder

Sam Foltz
Mauro Bondi
Johnny Stanton

LS

Josh Faulkenberry
Nate Gerry

WILL

Zaire Anderson
Courtney Love

FS

Nate Gerry
Zach Stovall

SS

Corey Cooper
Anthony Ridder

NICKEL

Byerson Cockrell
Josh Kalu

PR

Ameer Abdullah
Kenny Bell

MIKE

Josh Banderas
Trevor Roach

BUCK

David Santos
Austin Williams

CB

Jonathan Rose
Daniel Davie

WDE

Randy Gregory
Joe Keels

NT

Vincent Valentine
Kevin Maurice

DT

Maliek Collins
Kevin Williams

SDE

Greg McMullen
Marcus Newby

CB

Josh Mitchell
Chris Jones

WRX

Kenny Bell
Sam Burtch

LT

Alex Lewis
David Knevel

LG

Jake Cotton
Chongo Kondolo

C

Mark Pelini
Givens Price

RG

Mike Moudy
Givens Price

RT

Zach Sterup
Givens Price

TE

Cethan Carter
Sam Cotton

WRZ

Alonzo Moore
Taariq Allen

WRA

Jordan Westerkamp
Jamal Turner

KOS

Mauro Bondi
Drew Brown

QB

Tommy Armstrong Jr.
Ryker Fyfe

IB

Ameer Abdullah
Imani Cross

KR

Kenny Bell
Ameer Abdullah

PK

Drew Brown
Mauro Bondi

FB

Andy Janovich
Mitch McCann

OFFENSE



Darren Ivy
(2-5, 2-5)



Mike Schaefer
(5-2, 5-2)



Michael Bruntz
(5-2, 5-2)



Bob Hamar
(3-4, 3-4)



Terry Douglass
(5-2, 5-2)



Doug Griffiths
(5-2, 5-2)



Lanny Holstein
(5-2, 5-2)

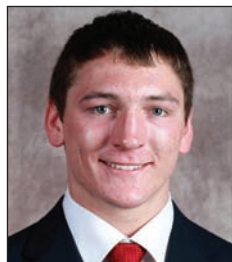
Last Week, Season	Darren Ivy (2-5, 2-5)	Mike Schaefer (5-2, 5-2)	Michael Bruntz (5-2, 5-2)	Bob Hamar (3-4, 3-4)	Terry Douglass (5-2, 5-2)	Doug Griffiths (5-2, 5-2)	Lanny Holstein (5-2, 5-2)
Nebraska vs McNeese State	NU 56-14	NU 54-12	NU 56-17	NU 52-10	NU 49-13	NU 30-10	NU 52-10
Kansas State vs. Iowa State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State
Stanford vs. USC	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford	Stanford
Maryland vs. South Florida	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	South Florida	Maryland	Maryland
Oregon vs. Michigan State	Michigan State	Michigan State	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon	Oregon
Michigan vs. Notre Dame	Michigan	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Michigan	Notre Dame	Michigan	Notre Dame
Ohio State vs. Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State



WEST Wood River

107 miles

Gangwish follows father's DE footsteps



WOOD RIVER MAY HAVE DONE IT AGAIN. THE TOWN OF 1,300 PEOPLE DEFIED THE ODDS AND PRODUCED AN ALL-WORLD ATHLETE ONCE BEFORE. HUSKER FOOTBALL GREAT SCOTT FROST GREW UP THERE

AND WAS SUCH A STRONG ATHLETE HE ENDED UP GOING TO STANFORD STRAIGHT OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL BEFORE TRANSFERRING BACK TO THE IN-STATE SCHOOL FOR HIS FINAL TWO SEASONS.

He's a big deal to Nebraska's current Wood River product, Jack Gangwish.

"I don't remember Scott Frost being in high school or anything like that, but everyone knows him," the defensive end said. "The only thing anyone ever heard of from Wood River, Nebraska, is Scott Frost. Everyone knows he was a great athlete. It's tough to live up to that sort of thing."

No one is comparing Gangwish's athleticism to that of Frost, but the walk-on junior has a chance to get some meaningful playing time this year, and it's a big deal for a kid coming from a small Nebraska town like Wood River.

Gangwish is the son of Paul Gangwish, a walk-on defensive end in the early to mid-1980s. The walk-on tradition of Nebraska football was enough to pull him away from money at Division II schools and a few wrestling opportunities.

He's not on scholarship, yet, but that's not the point for Gangwish.

"Obviously, being a scholarship guy would be pretty cool, but my father was a walk-on," he said. "I think it's a cool thing. In a way, a scholarship is a ride, that's what it is. Being a walk-on, you have to work for everything. Nothing's given to you at all. I always thought that was really cool."

His first couple years at Nebraska weren't easy for

Gangwish. He spent his time, as most walk-ons do, toiling away on the scout team, trying to give the starters a good look, and trying to get himself noticed at the same time.

"The first couple years here, I was in the trenches, did my time in scout, worked hard. You know, I didn't really have an opportunity," Gangwish said. "I wasn't big enough, wasn't strong enough to get on the field. The first couple years, they were slow, they were long, they were hard, but I'd do it all over again. I'd tell you that."

A sit down with Nebraska defensive coordinator John Papuchis and defensive line coach Rick Kaczinski changed everything for the walk-on this offseason.

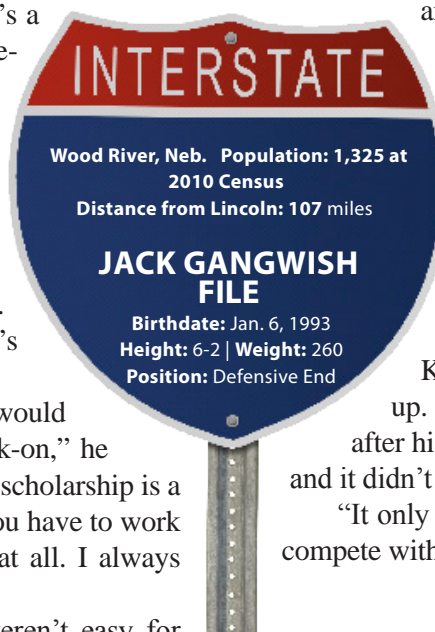
"It was back in January when we got back from the bowl game," Gangwish said. "We had some stuff happen, we lost a guy, you know, and we graduated a bunch of guys. JP and Kaz sat down and said they needed me, that I have an opportunity this year."

The news was a little unexpected for the defensive end, but he'd already carved a role as a hard worker and leader on the team – even without a scholarship or any playing time. Now, Gangwish is trying to bring his game up another level.

"Off the field, in the weight room, on the practice field, and in strength and conditioning, I'm a guy that guys look up to," he said. "I try to lead the pack in whatever we're doing, but it's kind of difficult when you're on the scout team. Now it feels more natural since I'm going to be getting some playing time."

Randy Gregory and Greg McMullen are the starters at defensive end, but Gangwish has been battling with Joe Keels and A.J. Natter for a role as top back-up. He showed up for spring ball ready to go after his offseason conversation with the coaches, and it didn't take long for him to like where he fits in.

"It only took me a day or two to realize that I can compete with these guys," he said.



~ Story by Lanny Holstein



Joe Mixan/Huskers Illustrated

Walk-on Jack Gangwish of Wood Riversaw extensive time against FAU with an early injury to Randy Gregory.

HOME

REAL ESTATE

Mortgage • Title • Insurance

Proud To Be Your Hometown Real Estate Company

DENNIS SLAMA



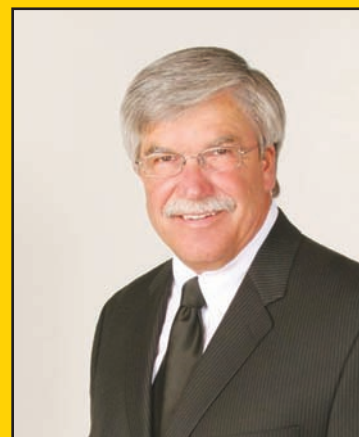
Real Estate Agent
Home Real Estate Pine Lake
7211 S. 27th St
Lincoln, NE 68512
402-560-1173 (C)
402-436-3232 (O)
dennis@slamahomes.com
http://www.slamahomes.com

MATT ANKERSON



Real Estate Agent
Home Real Estate Pine Lake
7211 S. 27th St
Lincoln, NE 68512
402-430-2455 (C)
402-436-3232 (O)
matt.ankerson@homerealestate.com
www.homerealestate.com/mattankerson

JOHN FINK



Real Estate Agent
Home Real Estate North
5901 N 27th St
Lincoln, NE 68512
402-429-9598 (C)
402-323-8794 (O)
john.fink@homerealestate.com
www.homerealestate.com/johnfink



www.homerealestate.com

MLS.

Catching up with **RICK BERNs**

Running Back 1975-78

By Butch Rasmussen/Huskers Illustrated

“Nebraska bursts Oklahoma’s bubble. Rick Berns shreds the Sooners.” shouted the teasers on the cover of *Sports Illustrated Magazine* dated November 20, 1978. Berns, the tall, lanky Texan from Wichita Falls drew the ultimate honor of gracing the cover of this premier sports magazine.

With both feet in the air and Sooner defenders grabbing a handful of nothing, Berns seemed to be on his way to a score when that photo was shot.

Berns, the Husker’s 1978 All-Big 8 running back was part of an iconic tailback tandem that day with running mate I. M. Hipp.

Recalling that *SI* cover brings back memories of a titanic struggle with the Sooners in Lincoln nine days earlier.

It was the fourth-ranked Huskers challenging the number one ranked Sooners and in this *SI* cover photo Berns’ shredded jersey told the tale of going to war in search of a national championship. He did his part that day by rushing for 113 yards on 25 carries with one touchdown as the Huskers were victorious 17-14.

It was Coach Tom Osborne’s first win over the Sooners in six tries. Osborne would finish his career 19 years later at 13-13 versus Oklahoma

“Oklahoma was always a big

game, often toward a national title. We finally got over that hurdle in ‘78.” Berns said.

He was recruited by Oklahoma, Colorado, Notre Dame, Arkansas and most of the Big 8 schools. He said he came to Nebraska because of Tom Osborne’s reputation and character.

My conversations with Rick have brought about my notice of feelings in him of gentle sadness and disappointment in not capturing a national title during his years at Nebraska. “We certainly had some opportunities,” he said.

Berns’ mother Josefina didn’t like to watch him play football but he coaxed her to a game in Lincoln in 1976 when the Huskers hosted Miami. It turned out to be the worst game of his college football career when he fumbled 4 times. He thought that was the end of his playing days at Nebraska.

Berns says he gets a couple requests each month from people who want to send him copies of the *SI* magazine to autograph



and he always accommodates.

Today Berns is a 58 year-old construction company project manager living in San Antonio, Texas. He’s a low key guy for sure. Easy to talk to and has plenty to say but doesn’t take any of it too seriously.

Berns is not overly inflated by his fame. In fact he’s dismissive when the subject of the *SI* cover is brought up.

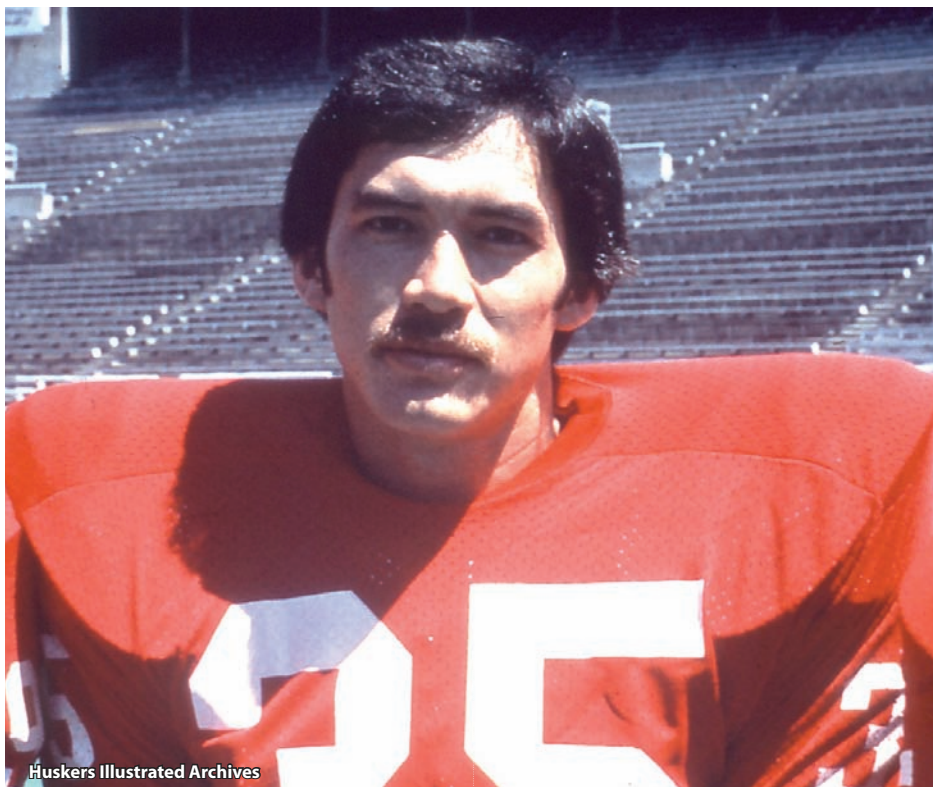
Berns re-wrote the Husker record books in 1978 with 255 yards rushing and 36 individual carries versus Missouri, both Husker records and his net yards rushing for a career, 2,704, was also a Husker all-time best.

During his senior season Berns was awarded the coveted

Tom Novak Trophy given to the Husker senior who best exemplifies courage and determination despite all odds in the manner of Nebraska All-America center, Novak

He also collected the Guy Chamberlain Award for showing by his play and contributions to the team that he had the qualities and dedication of Guy Chamberlain to the great Husker tradition.

Born in Okinawa, he’s married and has six grandchildren. He shared a Super Bowl championship season in the NFL with former Husker All-America quarterback Dave Humm while playing for the Oakland Raiders in the 1981 classic.



Berns says his knees, back and legs are gone and says football and age have taken a lot out of him.

Berns kept some of his awards, football gear and trophies.

"Yeah, I kept the helmet and some jerseys. Those and the trophies and the magazine are around some place. My kids have some of that and my Japan bowl jersey is on loan to a San Antonio restaurant," he offered.

Berns says he was inspired by a couple undersized but gritty teammates in Kerry Weinmaster of North Platte and Tim Wurth of Omaha. Weinmaster was a 6-foot, 207-pound middle guard and Wurth was a 5-foot-7, 175-pound I-back. Defensive end George Andrews from Omaha brought mention as a guy who had all the tools and athletic ability.

Of all the many Husker athletes I've had the pleasure of knowing and talking to I don't think I've ever met one more impressive in his demeanor and his cordial acceptance of my intrusion than Rick Berns. A humble guy for sure and a real gentleman.

Advertising Section

HUSKERS IN BUSINESS

KOLLMORGEN & ASSOCIATES

Bringing the Marketplace to you!

Karl Kollmorgen • Kyle Kollmorgen
Licensed Consultant • PPACA Certified

coportunity
HEALTH™



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

UnitedHealthcare

COVENTRY
Health Care
An Aetna Company

aetnaSM

ASSURANT Health

Starmark

Do you know what Metallic health insurance plans are?

Do you know what you will be penalized by the IRS for not having health insurance?

Do you know if you will benefit from the Exchange/Marketplace?

Do you know where you can get health coverage?

Do you know if you qualify for subsidies that the government will provide to purchase health?

Contact our office for help with your health insurance needs.

Phone number:
402.434.2580

Email:
sales@kollmorgenassoc.com



Look, Feel, Function **BETTER**

Owner Troy Watchorn, a former Husker Blackshirt, believes in helping clients fuse the mental, nutritional and physical components of wellness.

year-round speed/strength camps for all athletes

small group, large group and 1-on-1 training



t7fitness.com

IN THE RedZone

Newcombe, Abdullah latest to earn top spots

By Kalani Simpson

Huskers Illustrated

You may or may not have done well in geography in school, but now we're giving you another chance.

Husker geography. That's right – this is the perfect subject for tailgate arguments, bar bets or radio drive-time talk shows (you're welcome).

It's time to answer that age-old question: Who is the best all-time Husker from each state? In the last issue, *Huskers Illustrated* looked at the best players to come out of Texas. This week we move on to Alabama and New Mexico.

**Husker
Geography
Part 15**

NEW MEXICO

BOBBY NEWCOMBE

*QUARTERBACK/WINGBACK/KICK
RETURNER, 1997-2000*

Bobby Newcombe's career at Nebraska is a testament to how thin the line can be between being pretty darn good and being an all-time great. It's not just about talent. It's not just about how much you want it. Sometimes that isn't enough. So many things have to go right.

It can be about timing, and fit, and sometimes just plain luck. Bobby Newcombe happened to play the same position at the same time as a guy who would go on to win the Heisman Trophy. And he had a knee injury in his first game as the starting quarterback, and nothing was ever the same.

Newcombe had a good career at Nebraska. A really good one. He played a key role (as a big-play wingback) on the 1997 national championship team. He averaged more than 20 yards a punt return, that season.

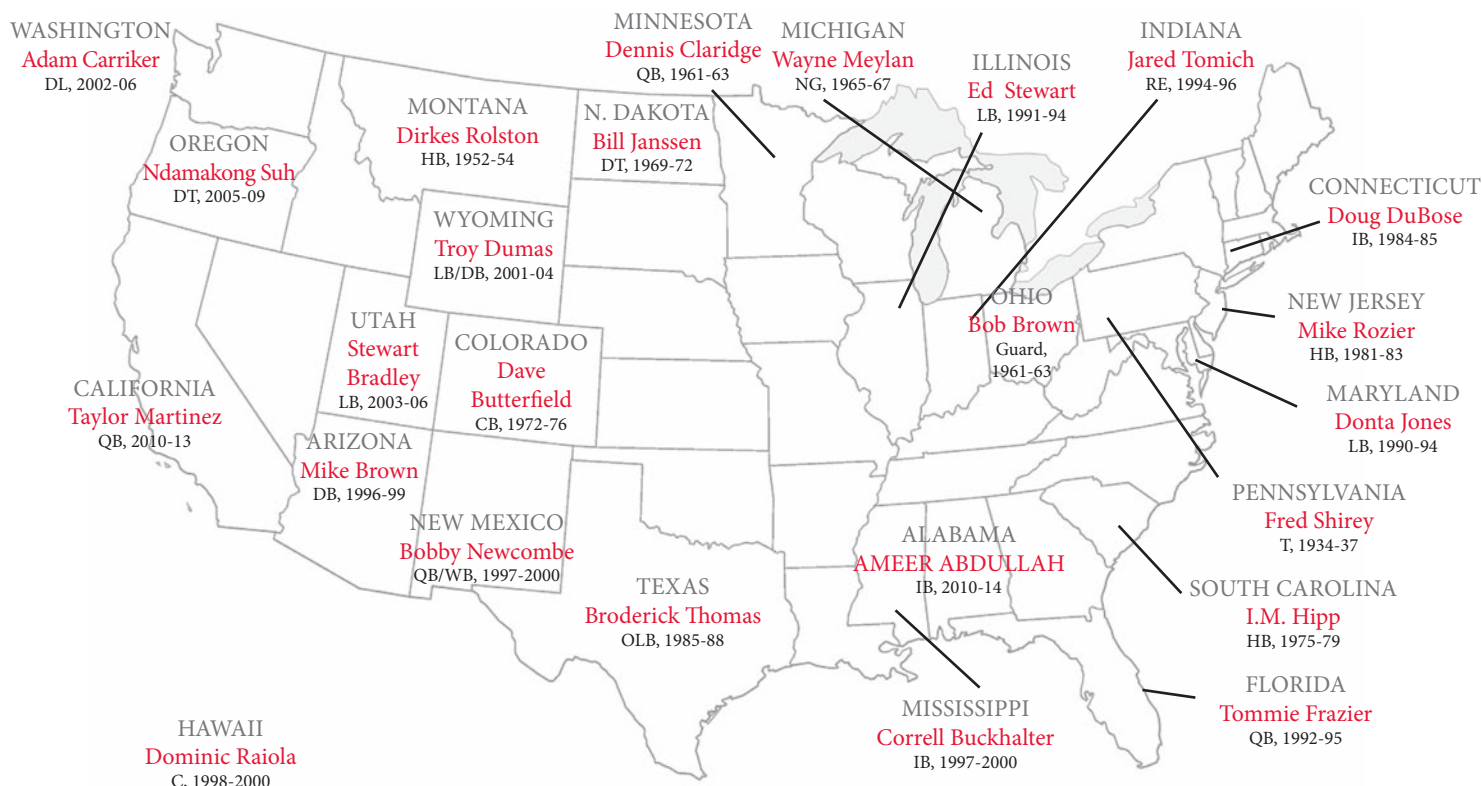
He finished second all time in career punt return yards, had a 94 yard punt-return touchdown, a school record. He was Big 12 Special Teams Player of the Week twice. He earned notice by at least one outlet in 1999 as a first-team all-conference punt returner. He took one back for a touchdown, as Nebraska capped off its last great season, in the 2000 Fiesta Bowl win over Tennessee.

Bobby Newcombe
carries the ball against
Oklahoma.



HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED ARCHIVES

All-Time Greatest Huskers From Each State



Bobby Newcombe had a really good Husker career. We hope he looks back and smiles.

Except ... he was going to be the guy we told our grandchildren about on winter nights.

Do you remember holding your breath as he took the first snap in the 1998 spring game and exploded down the sideline for 91 yards? Do you remember the hairs standing up on the back of your neck?

He was going to be the next all-time great one. Only, it doesn't work out that way, sometimes. There could be an injury. There could be bad timing, worse luck. Sometimes, the stars don't align, sometimes there's actually a guy at the same position who's as fast as you are. Sometimes, fair or not, it's not meant to be.

But then, all this isn't as easy as we think it is. As the great Bobby Newcombe showed us, sometimes being good is tough enough

ALABAMA

AMEER ABDULLAH

I-BACK, 2010-14

A guy must be pretty good, if he steps in for

Rex Burkhead, and doesn't miss a beat. Running backs coach Ron Brown loves him, on and off the field. Tough. So tough.

Abdullah still has nearly his entire senior season left, but already ranks No. 6 all-time in career rushing for Nebraska.

ANDRA FRANKLIN

FULLBACK, 1977-80

They thought he'd sign with the Bear, at Alabama. It was a foregone conclusion he'd never get out of the state. Yet, somehow he ended up in Lincoln.

Power. Man, he'd clear a hole for the I-back behind him, or, if he was carrying the ball, he could make his own. They called him Big Pill because he delivered headaches to all who got in his way.

He owns the (un)official career rushing record for fullbacks. In his senior season, he had two 100-yard games.

He was a star (as a fullback!) in the pros, but his career ended too soon. He came home to Lincoln, where he died too young. You were the man, Big Pill. Rest in peace.



Ameer Abdullah rushes for a TD against Florida Atlantic.

JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Huskers 4 Huskers stresses positives of program



Lee Berks, center, and Jeff Dinslage, second from left, pose with NU graduate assistants Kyle Brey and Max Onyegbule and NU director of player personnel Brian Crist during a Huskers 4 Huskers function.

COURTESY OF BERKS FOTO

By Darren Ivy
Huskers Illustrated

Several years ago, Jeff Dinslage of Omaha was needing a sun room attached to his home.

So Dinslage purchased one and Lee Berks of Lee Contracting happened to be the person who came out to install it. During the week-long project Dinslage and Berks got to talking about Husker football and developed a friendship that grew into an idea to start a Husker fan group.

Berks hosted a former Huskers all-sports reunion at the Rococo Theater in Lincoln following the 2011 spring football game.

But the idea for a fan/former player group really got going in 2013 when Dinslage invited Berks to attend a Husker Football Films event at Holy Ghost Parish in Omaha, which has been hosting film sessions with graduate assistants and Nebraska coaches for about 40 years.

"We got to talking and Lee was like, why can't we have something like this in Lincoln," Dinslage said.

On Aug. 21, the first Huskers 4 Huskers event was held at Vega in the Railyard with current Nebraska graduate assistant Kyle Brey breaking down film from the 2013 Michigan victory. Current graduate assistant Max Onyegbule, NU Director of Football Player Personnel Brian Crist and former Husker and NFL linebacker Jay Foreman also spoke.

"It was created for the sole purpose of uniting former Huskers and loyal fans in support



of current Huskers, coaches and staff members," Berks said. "Former Huskers for current Huskers equals Huskers 4 Huskers."

Neither Berks nor Dinslage are University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduates, but both are longtime Husker fans.

Berks grew up in North Platte, but when he was in high school came to Norris and later Lincoln High. He talked with Coach Tom Osborne about playing football at Nebraska, but was told he was "too small." So Berks played football at Kearney State. Later he owned Berks Home Improvement Service, worked for Gallup and in the Nebraska Athletic Department before starting up Lee Contracting in 2004.

During his time in construction and with Gallup, Berks employed and oversaw around 60 different former Nebraska football players

in the summer time.

Berks' personal connection with the Husker program began in 1990 when Matt Penland came to work for Berks one summer.

"Turner Gill was the head of player personnel at that time and was in charge of getting players summer jobs," Berks said. "Coach Osborne started the summer program to help keep players around during the summer for summer workouts and summer classes."

Foreman was another player who worked for Berks. The last Husker that Berks employed was 2012 graduate PJ Smith, who was a guest speaker at the Aug. 28 gathering.

"The roles for employing student athletes are getting so crazy," Berks said. "It's just not worth all the scrutiny."

Dinslage worked in the financial sector with Lindsay Credit, Valmont Industries and Diversified Financial Services, LLC. He then served as a consultant in sales and marketing for Stauffer Seeds before starting his own company, Nature Hills Nursery, Inc. in 2001.

Dinslage and Berks both want the Huskers 4 Huskers group to have a positive focus.

"We believe in the 'Husker family' mentality," Berks said. "That being said, there is zero tolerance in this group for name calling, player or coach bashing, profanity, targeting or calling a family member out."

In addition to interacting with other members of Huskers 4 Huskers on Facebook and Twitter, people are invited to come out to one of their Thursday night events at Vega.

Sept. 7, 1985

With temperatures on the Memorial Stadium artificial turf registering at more than 100 degrees, No. 17-ranked Florida State took advantage of three Nebraska turnovers to beat the No. 10 Cornhuskers 17-13. The loss was the last time NU suffered a setback in its season opener. Fullback Tom Rathman opened the scoring with a 60-yard touchdown run for Nebraska.

Sept. 8, 1973

Hall of Famer Tom Osborne's first game as head coach was a memorable one as No. 4 Nebraska rolled to a 40-14 victory over No. 10 UCLA before a crowd of 74,966 fans at Memorial Stadium and an ABC national TV audience.

A little more than a year after the Bruins put an end to the Huskers' 32-game winning streak with a 20-17 victory over a No. 1-ranked Nebraska squad in the Los Angeles Coliseum, the Huskers surged to a 21-7 lead in the first half. The highlight was Randy Borg's 77-yard punt return for a TD.

Recalling his first season as head coach several years later, Osborne told Huskers Illustrated that he and his staff didn't make a lot of changes from the schemes Nebraska had used in 1972 — Bob Devaney's last season as the Huskers' head coach.

"In 1973, we ran basically the same plays and did the same things," Osborne said. "We threw the ball a whole lot, but a lot of people thought we were very drab and unexciting and that somehow the coaching change had caused that."

Nebraska played the UCLA game with backup quarterback Steve Runty (pictured right) running the offense. The walk-on from Ogallala started in place of David Humm, who was battling both a knee injury and an infected elbow, and completed 9-of-12 pass attempts for 105 yards with two interceptions and opened the scoring with a 1-yard TD run.

Tony Davis led the way for the Huskers with 147 yards rushing. He scored on runs of 1 and 43 yards in the second half as Nebraska outgained UCLA 410-259 in total offensive yardage.

The Bruins' wishbone offense did manage 239 yards rushing, but was one-dimensional as quarterback Mark Harmon — the TV actor perhaps best known as playing Special Agent Leroy Jethro Gibbs on the TV series NCIS — was just 2-of-9 passing for 20 yards. Harmon's 3-yard scoring run with 11 seconds remaining in the third quarter cut Nebraska's lead to 20-13, but accounted for UCLA's final points of the game.

The impressive victory over a top-10 opponent vaulted the

Huskers to No. 2 in the rankings. However, Osborne's first season ended with a 9-2-1 mark as Nebraska lost 13-12 at No. 12 Missouri, was tied 17-17 at unranked Oklahoma State and lost 27-0 at No. 3 Oklahoma.

Sept. 9, 1978

Following a season-opening loss to Alabama, No. 10 Nebraska scored 22 fourth-quarter points to pull away for a 36-26 home victory over California after the score was tied at 14-14 at the end of three quarters. I.M. Hipp rushed for 154 yards and Tom Sorely passed for 190 yards for the Huskers.

Sept. 10, 2005

Three defensive scores paved the way for Nebraska in its 31-3 home victory over Wake Forest. Corey McKeon had a 38-yard interception return and Daniel Bullocks scored on a 30-yard fumble return, giving the Huskers a 14-0 first-quarter lead. Later, Stuart Bradley intercepted a pass and returned it 49 yards for a TD with 10:23 to play.

Sept. 11, 2010

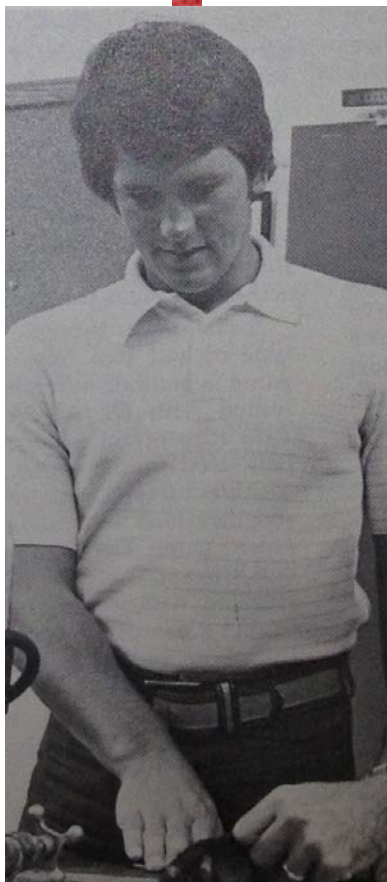
Nebraska scored 28 second-quarter points to beat Idaho 38-17 in a sloppy performance at Memorial Stadium. The Huskers fumbled eight times, losing three, and had an interception. NU was also penalized 10 times for 123 yards.

Sept. 12, 1981

After routing Iowa 57-0 the previous season, No. 7 Nebraska suffered a surprising 10-7 loss to the Hawkeyes at Kinnick Stadium in Iowa City. Iowa built a 10-0 halftime lead and was clinging to a three-point advantage after Roger Craig's 1-yard TD run when Lou King's interception secured the Iowa victory with 39 seconds remaining.

Sept. 13, 1997

Future NFL quarterback Daunte Culpepper passed for 318 yards and put a scare into No. 6 Nebraska, taking a 17-14 halftime lead before the Huskers rallied for a 38-24 home victory over Central Florida. I-back Ahman Green rushed for 113 yards and Correll Buckhalter scored two second-half TDs for NU, which was perhaps caught looking ahead to its meeting with No. 2 Washington — a game the Huskers won 27-14 on their way to a 13-0 season and winning a share of the national championship in Tom Osborne's 25th and final season as head coach.



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Two players with Nebraska ties saw action, but were on the losing end in their games at the FIBA Basketball World Cup in Spain last week.

Husker sophomore Tai Webster started for New Zealand and scored seven points, plus he pulled in five rebounds and a pair of assists. Turkey came back late in the game though to hand New Zealand a 76-73 loss.

The other former Husker in the tournament, Jorge Brian Diaz, played six and half minutes in Puerto Rico's 98-75 loss to Argentina, grabbing four rebounds and missing a couple shots. Both Webster's and Diaz's teams were still in contention as of press time.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

With the score tied 0-0 in the 83rd minute, sophomore Caroline Flynn scored from 30 yards out to help Nebraska (2-1) pick up a 1-0 victory over Butler at the Nebraska Soccer Field this past Friday.

Goalkeeper Kelly Schatz preserved the shutout with two saves over the course of the game, both of which came in the second half. From the start, Nebraska controlled the game offensively, taking 17 shots for the game, nine on goal. Sophomore Jaycie Johnson led the barrage with six shots, four on goal. Sydney Miramontez and Mayme Conroy each managed three shots, while Flynn and Haley Hanson each took two.

Flynn's game-winning goal came from the right side of the field and sailed over the Bulldogs' goalkeeper before landing in the top left corner of the net. With the clock winding down, Johnson made one final attempt to score, but her shot went wide.

Caroline Flynn scored the game winner for NU against Butler.



MITCHO OTTO/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Kelly Schatz makes a diving stop against Butler to help preserve the shutout.



DARREN IVY/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Coaches Corner

with Rhonda Revelle
Head Softball Coach



Huskers Illustrated reporter Lanny Holstein recently visited with Nebraska softball coach Rhonda Revelle, who is entering her 23rd season, to talk about her team's fall season, which gets underway on Sept. 14 with a Red-White scrimmage.

HI: Is there anything in particular you want to see in fall ball?

RR: Really working at getting some of our key people healthy again. Mattie Fowler will be back, and Alicia Armstrong won't be back this fall, but we want to continue to get her healthy. That's number one, and number two is getting our new pitching staff integrated. Emily (Lockman) is back, but two of our three pitchers are freshman. We really just want to get people competing and start to look at a depth chart by the end of the fall.

HI: What happens in the circle now that Tatum Edwards is gone?

RR: It looks like somebody has some innings to pick up. Kaylan Jablonski will be the frontrunner in getting the lion's share of the innings that Tatum graduated. Of course, Emily could always take on more, but they were pretty well splitting games last year. Kaylan will step right in. She was the Gatorade player of the year in Nebraska.

HI: What about your third pitcher, Caitlyn Bartsch?

RR: She'll be more of a middle reliever in baseball. She really specializes in keeping the ball down and changing speeds. As we get started with her here, her role could very well expand as time goes on in her career. She's going to be able to get you through the lineup once with crafty deception, but the second time through you may need to make a change. She's certainly going to serve a role.

HI: Softball is obviously different than baseball. Is a relief pitcher still something you like to have?

RR: Yes, and the reason I say Caitlyn is going to fit into that role so well is that I've seen here come into relief situations before, you know, bases loaded, nobody out, and she's just cool as a cucumber. She not only handles that role well physically, but she handles it well mentally. She doesn't get too high or too low. I think she has the perfect personality for that.

HI: Your latest recruiting class is almost all in-state kids. It seems like it's usually the other way around. Why is that?

RR: We've talked a lot publicly in our athletic department about how we have a small population base, so sometimes we have to go outside our borders to recruit. But you find that have years where it just cycles so you have a class with really strong athleticism in this sport. That was the 2014 graduating class in Nebraska.

This Week



Husker Athletics

Friday, Sept. 5

Women's Soccer

Oklahoma at Nebraska Soccer Field at 5:30 p.m.

Cross Country

Augustana Twilight at Sioux Falls, S.D.

Saturday, Sept. 6

Football

McNeese State at Memorial Stadium at 11 a.m.

Volleyball

CSU Bakersfield at Dayton, Ohio at Noon
Eastern Kentucky at Dayton, Ohio at 3 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 7

Men's Golf

Gopher Invitational at Independence, Minn.

Women's Soccer

North Dakota at Nebraska Soccer Field at 1 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 8

Men's Golf

Gopher Invitational at Independence, Minn.

Women's Golf

Chip-N-Club at Wilderness Ridge in Lincoln 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 9

Women's Golf

Chip-N-Club at Wilderness Ridge in Lincoln 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, Sept. 11

Women's Soccer

Northwestern at Nebraska Soccer Field at 2:30 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 12

Women's Tennis

Racket Club Invite in Midland, Texas

Volleyball

Denver at Bob Devaney Sports Center at 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 13

Volleyball

Colgate at Bob Devaney Sports Center at 7 p.m.

Football

Fresno State at 9:30 p.m. at Fresno, Calif.

NU's In-State Players

BELLEVUE

Erin Oholendt

BENNINGTON

Karlee Ganseboom

ELKHORN

Lindsay Poehling

FIRTH

Samanatha Areman

GRAND ISLAND

Savannah Allen

Abby Penas

GRETNA

Hannah Dittmar

Jaylyn Odermann

HASTINGS

Gina Conyers

LAVISTA

Amber Richardson

LINCOLN

Caroline Flynn

Hannah Schafers

Bri Badje

Amy Swearer

Alexa Cardona

Bri Exstrom

Carly Peetz

Jamie Sanchez

Vern Fitzgerald

Kaile Schroff

Carrie Strobe

NORFOLK

Brittany Pfeil

NORTH PLATTE

Brigid Kenny

OMAHA

Mayme Conroy

Jourden Casey

Stacy Bartels

Rachel Brennan

Alyssa Flannery

Ashley Hick

Kylie Kusleika

Megan Merrill

Katie Goetzmann

Colleen Goetzmann

Molly Thomas

Julie Berkshire

Anna Caniglia

Brianna Eilman

Andrea Zuniga

McKensie Kirchner

Meredith Shuman

Jackie Walsh

Ashley Carter

Paige Phillips

Meghan Anderson

Becky Preston

Anne Willrett

Julie Greco

Sarah Deacon

Lynne Officer

Kim Ratliff

Brenda Sieczkowski

Sarah Determan

Katrena Bevins

Andi Bigham

Tammy Swartz

Melanie Roh

Alison Dudley

Laura Bantnor

PAPILLION

Chelsi Rohloff

Stephanie Vacek

Dawn Riesberg

RALSTON

Rebecca Hornbacher

Kori Rokhar



Soccer shapes senior Areman

Position switch works out for best

Story & Photos By Darren Ivy

Senior soccer player Caroline Gray calls Samantha Areman the mother hen of the Nebraska soccer program. It's not a bad thing, Gray insists, but with 12 freshman and 17 total underclassmen, someone has to keep the pecking order.

"She is very organized and on top of things," Gray said. "She is always the one texting everybody about practice times and where to be at and what to do."

Areman laughed at Gray's assessment, but didn't deny it.

"I suppose I would agree, just because I am really organized," said Areman, who is a marketing major.

The respect Areman's teammates have for her is evident in the fact that she is one of four captains on the team along with seniors Gray, Mayme Conroy and Hannah Dittmar.

The path to her current starting role wasn't without a few hiccups and a position change.

Areman had a couple talks with Nebraska head soccer coach John Walker during her sophomore season that could have broken some players.



Nebraska senior Samantha Areman fights for the ball against SMU earlier this season.

"You know the kind of talks where he tells you that you aren't contributing the way he had expected by that point of time. I appreciate that he was honest, but they were tough meetings," Areman admitted. "I had a hunch what he would say, but it did surprise me a little actually hearing it."

"I never considered quitting because I knew I had the ambition and work ethic still to make my dreams happen."

The talks led Areman to switch positions from outside midfielder to defender the spring soccer season before her junior year. Both of those were positions the former high school forward had talked playing when she was recruited by Walker out of Norris High School.

"If not for those talks and his honesty, I probably wouldn't have started last year and wouldn't be where I am at this season," Areman said. "When I look back on my experience, I'll definitely be proud of the way I never gave up on my dream and handled the adversity."

Throughout her four-year career at Norris, the 5-foot-5 speedster scored 48 goals and distributed 43 assists while helping Norris qualify for its only three state tournaments (2008-2010) in school history.

Areman can easily remember her only two goals she's scored at Nebraska.

Areman's first goal came in the fourth game of her freshman season in an 8-1 victory over Northern Arizona. She failed to score at all her sophomore year while appearing in 17 of NU's 20 matches.

As a junior, Areman headed in a pass for a goal against Cincinnati in the second game of the season. Areman also tallied all four of her career assists last season, including one in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Samantha Areman looks to set things up against SMU.



"Assists are a little more common," Areman joked.

Ending up at Nebraska, where her father, Bryan, is employed was not her goal early on in high school.

"I actually went up to Nebraska to take a tour and talk with Coach Walker just to see what the whole recruiting process was like," Areman said. "I was planning on going somewhere outside of Nebraska for college."

Areman fell in love with the Husker tradition and program so much that she couldn't envision herself going anywhere else. After attending a Nebraska soccer camp the summer before her junior year, she committed.

"I never even visited another school," said Areman, who became the first Norris Titan to play for the Husker soccer program. "It was a relief committing that early and knowing where I was going."

Gray said that of the freshman who came in 2011, she thought Areman had made the most improvement the last four years.

"She is playing the best soccer of her career," Gray said. "All of her hard work has paid off for her."

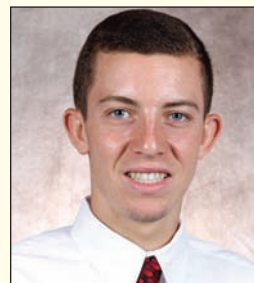
Areman, who grew up in the country by Firth, doesn't forget where she's come from and likes to people look up to her.

"The Norris program has come a long way since then and soccer is so much more popular now," Areman said. "I feel a sense of pride to represent them with the Huskers. It's fun to see all the girls who come to the games and cheer for me."

10 questions

with Joe Harter

Sophomore Cross Country Runner



1 Take me back to last season, your first meet as a freshmen when you finished second at the Augustana Twilight. What was that like?

JH: Throughout the summer, I felt like I had a good base under me and could make an impact on the team. The first meet I ran with one of my teammates and put my self out there. That was a big motivator for me finishing that high my first college meet and also helping the team.

3 Would you consider yourself a leader this year?

JH: Yeah. I feel like I've helped introduce some things to the team and get the motivation to where it needs to be. In order for us to be the most successful, we have to buckle down and put in the work. If we are together as a team pushing, the individual success will come along with that.

4 What are your goals for this season?

JH: I just really want to help the team as much as I can. I want to put myself up there at the top of the Big Ten. I feel like I'm in the best shape of my life right now, and I'd think I can finish in the top 30 in the top of the regional. That's my ultimate goal.

5 Do you think you have a chance to qualify for NCAAs this year?

JH: That'd be a hefty goal. My goal is just to be all-region this year. If I could do that, it would be outstanding, but by the end of my career, I want to qualify for NCAAs. Hopefully that will come in the next few years.

7 Do you listen to music when you run?

JH: Generally no, but if I'm by myself I will. Now that I'm back in Lincoln running with my teammates, it's better to get to know people, especially the freshmen.

8 Who is the funniest guy on the team? Why?

JH: I'd have to say it's Jacob Olsen. Me and him get along pretty well. We have some pretty weird talks on runs and stuff, but I've definitely connected with him the most. We do have a lot of jokesters on the team.

9 What's your breakdown of how the football team is going to do this season?

JH: Last year I thought our team was going to be in that 10-2 range. I still have that confidence this year as a Husker fan because I've been a fan my whole life. I have the confidence that we can go 10-2 and make it to the Big Ten Championship Game. I hope we can do that because if we get to that game, I think Bo Pelini will get over the hump. We'll win the Big Ten title this year.

2 Is it difficult to be a leader as a sophomore?

JH: When it comes down to it, there are always going to be people who don't listen to someone who's just a sophomore. They just feel like with what they're doing, they don't need any extra help or leadership. At the end of the day, it's up to them do the work or not, but I would like them to listen to me.

6 How did you get into cross country?

JH: When I was a freshman in high school my parents kind of forced me into it. I didn't really want to do it because I played baseball and basketball and football. I just took running as a punishment. I had a decent freshman season, and started loving after that.

10 Are you friends with any of those guys on the football team?

JH: I know Josh Banderas kind of because my roommate was Lucas Keifer and they've been best friends for a while. I see them all the time, and I was a little star struck as a freshman seeing all those guys. They motivate me though, I guess you could say.

~As interviewed by Huskers Illustrated's Lanny Holstein

Captain of the Court

Sophomore Wong-Orantes chosen again to be a leader

MAYBE JUSTINE WONG-ORANTES WAS JUST MEANT TO BE A CAPTAIN. AFTER ALL, SHE WAS CHOSEN TO BE CAPTAIN OF NEBRASKA'S SAND VOLLEYBALL TEAM THIS SPRING AS A TRUE FRESHMAN.

Now Wong-Orantes is a co-captain for the No. 7 Huskers, which opened the season this past weekend in the AVCA Classic at the Devaney Sports Center.

"I think it's a great achievement and it means a lot to me that I can earn my other teammate's respect and hopefully earn their trust as well," Wong-Orantes said. "I think me being a sophomore and having a big sophomore class, it will help because as we grow, hopefully we learn from each other and maybe learn from the other captains on the team."

She definitely was meant to play for Nebraska coach John Cook. He said she is the best passer on the team, and that means she will play.

"Again, passing is the key," Cook said. "I've been telling them all summer, if you can pass you're going to play."

Wong-Orantes, a 5-foot-6 libero from Cypress, California, moved right in a year ago and played in 32 of 33 matches for the Huskers.

Wong-Orantes, along with fellow

freshmen Amber Rolfzen, became the ninth and 10th true freshmen in the history of the program to start a season-opener a year ago.

Wong-Orantes put up some pretty good stats as a freshman too. She had 399 digs (3.5 per set) to tie former Husker Lara Dykstra's record for digs by a freshman. That total also stands ninth on the school's all-time list.

Now she finds herself as a captain. With just one senior – fellow co-captain Mary Pollmiller – on the team, there is plenty of need for leadership on what is still a young Husker squad.

Cook saw plenty of leadership from Wong-Orantes when the team traveled to China and Japan this past summer.

"You can have a libero that's a leader on the court, that's huge," Cook said. "She gives to the team. It's about the team. She gives to all those kids and it's not about her and it never has been about her. I think that's one of the reasons this group has done so well and did so well on the China trip."

Wong-Orantes said her experience as a sand captain last spring helped prepare her for this fall.

"Going from the sand season being a captain, I kind of wanted to follow that role," Wong-Orantes said. "I kind of went just based off of that knowing that I had some leadership qualities in sand so I wanted to keep it going into the indoor season and see where that ended up."



Story By Bob Hamar • Photo by Joe Mixan



Nebraska sophomore libero Justine Wong-Orantes has taken on a leadership role in her first two years in Lincoln.

2014 Nebraska Volleyball Schedule

Aug. 23, 2014	Red-White Game	Devaney Center	White 3-1
AVCA Showcase			
Aug. 29, 2014	Florida State	Devaney Center	L, 3-1 (0-1)
Aug. 31, 2014	Stanford	Devaney Center	1 p.m.
Flyer-Raider Invite			
Sept. 5, 2014	Dayton	Dayton, Ohio	6 p.m.
Sept. 6, 2014	CSU-Bakersfield	Dayton, Ohio	12 p.m.
Sept. 6, 2014	Eastern Kentucky	Dayton, Ohio	4 p.m.
Ameritas Players Challenge			
Sept. 12, 2014	Denver	Devaney Center	TBA
Sept. 13, 2014	Colgate	Devaney Center	TBA
Sept. 17, 2014	Creighton	Devaney Center	TBA
Sept. 20, 2014	Texas	Devaney Center	TBA
Sept. 24, 2014	Iowa *	Devaney Center	TBA
Sept. 27, 2014	Iowa *	Iowa City, Iowa	TBA
Oct. 3, 2014	Penn State *	Devaney Center	TBA
Oct. 4, 2014	Ohio State *	Devaney Center	TBA
Oct. 10, 2014	Michigan State *	East Lansing, MI	TBA
Oct. 11, 2014	Michigan *	Ann Arbor, MI	TBA
Oct. 15, 2014	Northwestern *	Devaney Center	TBA
Oct. 18, 2014	Illinois *	Devaney Center	TBA
Oct. 22, 2014	Minnesota *	Minneapolis	TBA
Oct. 26, 2014	Wisconsin *	Madison, Wis.	TBA
Oct. 31, 2014	Rutgers *	Piscataway, N.J.	TBA
Nov. 1, 2014	Maryland *	College Park, Md.	TBA
Nov. 5, 2014	Purdue *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 8, 2014	Indiana *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 12, 2014	Michigan State *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 16, 2014	Maryland *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 19, 2014	Indiana *	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA
Nov. 22, 2014	Michigan *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 26, 2014	Illinois *	Champaign, Ill.	TBA
Nov. 29, 2014	Penn State *	State College	TBA
NCAA Tourney			
Dec. 4-6, 2014	TBD	College Sites	TBA
Dec. 13-14, 2014	TBD	Regional Sites	TBA
Dec. 18, 2014	TBD - Semifinals	Oklahoma City, OK	TBA
Dec. 20, 2014	Championship	Oklahoma City	6:35 p.m.

Wong-Orantes was a setter and four-year starter in high school for Los Alamitos High, one of the top prep squads in California.

She left Alamitos with more victories than any player in program history.

Wong-Orantes also played on the Mizuno Long Beach club team that won the 2012 16-under Junior Olympics national tournament. That prepared her well for her Husker career.

Cook says this could be one of the best passing teams he's ever had at Nebraska, and Wong-Orantes is a big part of that passing game. She says that ability was developed by playing beach volleyball.

"Fortunately I played a lot of beach and I think that gave me an advantage in terms of passing and kind of having a lot of court awareness and using all the skills that beach teaches you," Wong-Orantes said. "I think beach actually really benefited me in transitioning into libero because it

gives you all the skills. As a setter you don't really pass, so that helped me."

Cook has had converted setters play libero before, including current assistant coach Dani Busboom-Kelly, who was libero for the 2006 national championship team.

Wong-Orantes said the transition to libero wasn't that difficult.

"I think we have a great coaching staff and great teammates," Wong-Orantes said. "Coming into kind of a new position, I'll be honest. It was tough. But just having that coaching staff and those teammates really helped me."

NEBRASKA VOLLEYBALL NOTEBOOK

Compiled by Bob Hamar • Photos by Mitch Otto

LINEUP IN FLUX

Cook was still grappling with lineup questions last week just a few days before the Huskers opened the season against Florida State. He will likely be experimenting with the lineup up until the Big Ten season starts.

"We may mess around a little bit in our non-conference season and give some kids some opportunities as opposed to just setting the lineup," Cook said. "When we get to the Big Ten, we go."

Whatever lineup Cook eventually decides upon, he thinks the Huskers will be much better prepared than a year ago.

"We're so so much farther ahead, I can't even give you an example of what it's like," Cook said. "I mean last year we had no idea what we were doing. We were all over the map....The stress for our team now is who's going to be on the court?"

Cook said last year he was still trying to orientate the new freshmen into the program. This year, freshmen Annika Albrecht and Sydney Townsend are already well initiated into the program.

A trip this summer to China and Japan certainly helped the Huskers come together.

"Going to Asia was big, and also we have four freshmen and two aren't playing right now," Cook said. "The two freshmen who are here have been here all summer. They're acclimated. They're very experienced players. They're both going to help us. I can tell you right now, both those guys are going to play."

REDSHIRTS ON HOLD

Although Cook said Albrecht and Townsend will be playing, decisions on the other freshmen might not be made for a while.

Freshmen Maddie Haggerty, who has been recovering from shoulder surgery, and Olivia Boender, who also is injured, could both be candidates for redshirt seasons. Cook said if they can help the Huskers win this year, they will play.

"Like Maddie. Is Maddie going to help us? If not, then let's not waste a year," Cook said. "Now it could all change a month from now, but you have to plan. You really don't redshirt someone until the end of the season when you haven't played them. I'm not just going to

throw Maddie in there and say, 'Maddie, you have a match.' You're not going to burn a year for that."

TOUGH OPENING SCHEDULE

The Huskers opened the season by losing in four sets to No. 13 Florida State and hosting No. 3 Stanford at the Devaney Center Sunday. They will also host No. 2 Texas on Sept. 20 before hosting No. 1 Penn State on Oct. 3.

Cook said the Huskers need that kind of competition.

"This year I'm fine with it because I feel like our team is at a point where they want to play great teams," Cook said. "We need to be tested and figure it out. Then I read we're the youngest team in the history of Nebraska volleyball and I'm thinking OK, maybe I over scheduled."

Nebraska fans will likely appreciate the tough early-season schedule.

"Our fans want to see great teams here so any chance we can get to bring great teams here to play, we have to do it," Cook said. "It just means I sleep less and can't pad my career win record much."

STORMING THE COURT

With such a tough home schedule, maybe Cook will get his wish to see

Husker fans storm the court after a volleyball match.

He saw that at Pinnacle Bank Arena last winter after the Husker men's basketball team beat Wisconsin and wondered why that couldn't happen for volleyball. Cook was there with football coach Bo Pelini nearby.

"The students were trying to get me to go out there with Bo,"

Cook said. "We were both standing there. I'm like scared to death because they're just mashing in there as the clock is running down. The security guy says, 'I'm standing behind you.' I'm hanging onto the rail. Bo is across the way doing the same thing. It was like a mob scene."

The question is what game would be a big enough win to get fans to storm the court at the Devaney Center?

"Every win is a big win," Cook said. "Maybe one that comes down to a dramatic ending."



Mary Pollmiller bumps the ball against FSU.

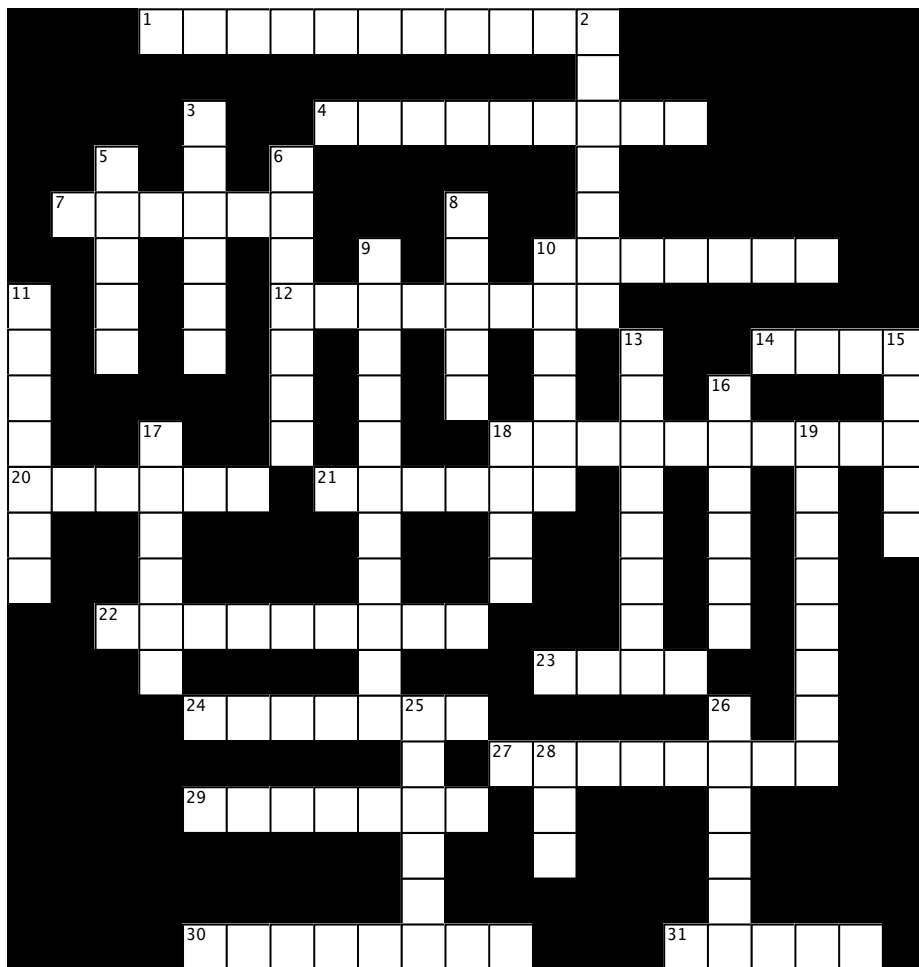


Alicia Ostrander makes an attack against Florida State.



Justin Wong-Orantes serves the ball against Florida State.

SEPTEMBER 6 CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1. McNeese State campus location
4. Last Husker first-round NFL Draft pick
7. McNeese State head coach
10. McNeese State nickname
12. Offensive line coach
14. Wears No. 17 (offense)
18. Wears No. 1 (offense)
20. Radio voice of the Huskers
21. NU's second Heisman Trophy winner
22. McNeese State's conference
23. Receiver named 2014 captain
24. Officially joined Big Ten on July 1, 2014
27. Running back named 2014 captain
29. Imani Cross' home state
30. Officially joined Big Ten on July 1, 2014
31. Running backs coach

DOWN

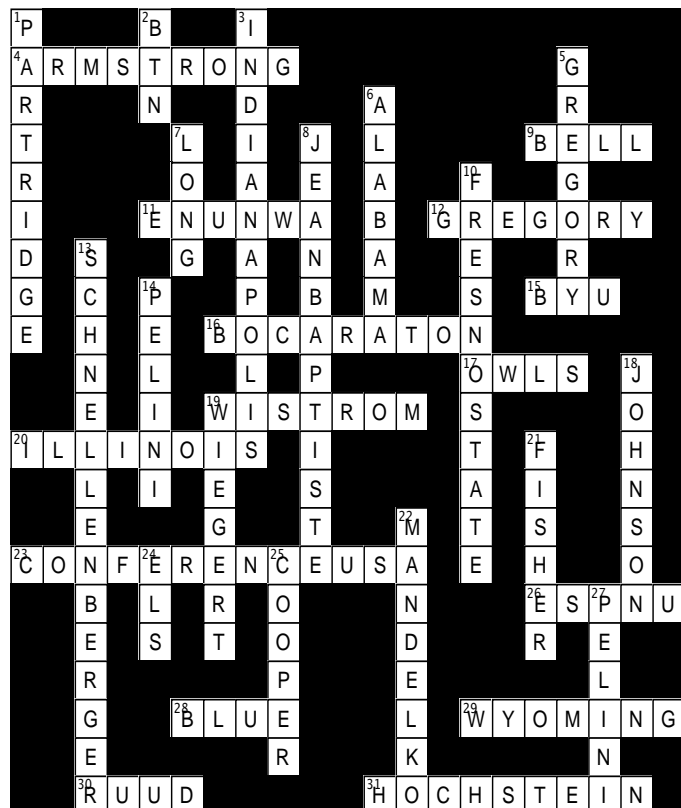
2. Wears No. 5 (offense)
3. Offensive lineman named 2014 captain
5. Sept. 20 opponent
6. Named to Ted Hendricks Award Watch List
8. Leading scorer in 2013
9. Sept. 13 opponent
10. Safety named 2014 captain
11. Radio color analyst
13. Cornerback named 2014 captain
15. Network for NU-McNeese State telecast
16. Ex-Husker punter now a coach at NU
17. 2016 non-conference opponent
18. NU's division in Big Ten
19. Nation's top returning rusher
25. 2000 Rimington Award winner
26. 1972 Outland Trophy winner
28. 2015 non-conference opponent

Prognostications of Joe Husker



I thought McNeese State was
a community college. Cowboys
get bucked by the Big Red.

AUGUST 30 CROSSWORD SOLUTION



THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

magazine.huskersillustrated.com

1-800-524-9527

IT'S
HERE!

HUSKERS
247

HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

FROM THE LEADERS
IN RECRUITING
& NEBRASKA
COVERAGE

HUSKERS
ILLUSTRATED



247SPORTS
Your team. All the time.